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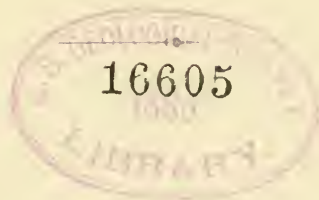
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Hist. Soc.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

✓
Rhode Island Historical Society,

1874-5.



PROVIDENCE:

PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY.

1875.

Committee on Publication.

HON. JOHN R. BARTLETT,
PROF. J. LEWIS DIMAN, LL. D.
REV. EDWIN M. STONE.

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OFFICERS
OF THE
RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

ELECTED JANUARY 19TH, 1875.

President.

HON. SAMUEL G. ARNOLD, - - - - - PROVIDENCE.

Vice Presidents.

HON. ZACHARIAH ALLEN, - - - - - PROVIDENCE.

HON. FRANCIS BRINLEY, - - - - - NEWPORT.

Secretary.

HON. AMOS PERRY, - - - - - PROVIDENCE.

Treasurer.

MR. RICHMOND P. EVERETT, - - - - - PROVIDENCE.

Librarian and Cabinet Keeper of the Northern Department.

REV. EDWIN M. STONE, - - - - - PROVIDENCE.

Librarian and Cabinet Keeper of the Southern Department.

BENJAMIN B. HOWLAND, Esq., - - - - - NEWPORT.

Committee on Nomination of New Members.

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GEORGE L. COLLINS, M. D., - - - - -	PROVIDENCE.
MR. ALBERT V. JENCKES, - - - - -	PROVIDENCE.

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HON. AMOS PERRY, - - - - -	PROVIDENCE.
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Committee on Publications of the Society.

HON. JOHN R. BARTLETT, - - - - -	PROVIDENCE.
PROF. J. LEWIS DIMAN, LL. D., - - - - -	PROVIDENCE.
REV. EDWIN M. STONE, - - - - -	PROVIDENCE.

Committee on Care of Grounds and Building.

ISAAC H. SOUTHWICK, Esq., - - - - -	PROVIDENCE.
JOSEPH R. BROWN, - - - - -	PROVIDENCE.
ALBERT DAILEY, - - - - -	PROVIDENCE.

Audit Committee.

MR. HENRY T. BECKWITH, - - - - -	PROVIDENCE.
MR. WALTER BLODGETT, - - - - -	PROVIDENCE.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

ELECTED SINCE JANUARY 1ST, 1873.*

July 1, 1873.	William Cullen Bryant, LL. D.,	New York City.
Oct. 7, 1873.	Hon. John Lothrop Motley, LL. D.,	London, Eng.
Jan. 20, 1874.	James Anthony Froude, F. Ex. Col. Ox.,	“ “
Nov. 10, 1874.	Hon. Brantz Mayer,	Baltimore, Md.

* For complete list previous to this date, see Proceedings for 1872-73.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

ELECTED SINCE APRIL 1ST, 1873.*

July 1, 1873.	Rev. Thomas T. Stone,	Bolton, Mass.
Oct. 7, 1873.	Col. Albert H. Hoyt,	Boston, Mass.
“ “	William Chambers, LL. D.,	Edinburgh, Scotland.
“ “	Prof. J. C. Holst,	Christiana, Norway.
“ “	G. J. Bowles, Esq.,	Quebec, Canada.
Jan. 20, 1874.	Frederick Kidder, Esq.,	Boston, Mass.
April 7, 1874.	William J. Hoppin, Esq.,	New York City
July 7, 1874.	Hon. William Greenough,	Boston, Mass.
“ “	Rev. Samuel Osgood, D. D.,	New York City.
“ “	Col. John Ward,	“ “
“ “	Alexander Dunean, Esq.,	England.
Nov. 10, 1874.	Lyman C. Draper, Esq.,	Madison, Wis.
April 6, 1875.	Col. Percy Daniel,	Worcester, Mass.
“ “	Charles H. Russell, Esq.,	New York City.
“ “	Hon. J. Carson Brevoort,	“ “ “

* For a complete list of Corresponding Members previous to this date, see Proceedings for 1872-73.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

APRIL 6, 1875.

ELECTED.

- 1822. Allen, Zachariah
- 1836. Anthony, Henry B.
- 1844. Arnold, Samuel G.
- 1874. Arnold, Olney
- 1874. Armington, Matthew Watson
- 1874. Addeman, Joshua M.
- 1874. Aldrich, Nelson M.
- 1875. Aplin, Charles
- 1875. Ames, William
- 1875. Angell, Albert G.
- 1830. Baker, George
- 1831. Bartlett, John R.
- 1846. Bradley, Charles S.
- 1849. Beckwith, Henry T.
- 1857. Brown, Welcome O.
- 1858. Binney, William
- 1870. Brinley, Francis
- 1872. Barrows, Edwin
- 1872. Bowen, Holder B.
- 1873. Brown, Joseph R.
- 1873. Boone, Charles E.
- 1873. Blodgett, Walter
- 1874. Brownell, Stephen
- 1874. Burnside, Ambrose E.
- 1875. Brown, John A.

ELECTED.

- 1839. Caswell, Alexis
- 1851. Collins, George L.
- 1857. Chambers, Robert B.
- 1859. Calder, George B.
- 1868. Chace, Thomas W.
- 1872. Channing, William F.
- 1872. Carpenter, Francis W.
- 1872. Congdon, John H.
- 1872. Cooke, Joseph J.
- 1873. Carpenter, Charles E.
- 1873. Clark, Samuel W.
- 1873. Corliss, William
- 1873. Claffin, George L.
- 1874. Chace, Barnabas J.
- 1874. Caswell, Edward T.
- 1874. Cranston, Henry C.
- 1836. Dorrance, William T.
- 1838. Dyer, Elisha
- 1819. Durfee, Thomas
- 1851. Doyle, Thomas A.
- 1866. Diman, J. Lewis
- 1871. Dean, Sidney
- 1873. Drowne, George R.
- 1874. Day, Daniel E.
- 1874. Dailey, Albert

ELECTED.

- 1874. Dike, Arba B.
- 1875. Dunnell, William Denton
- 1856. Ely, James W. C.
- 1858. Everett, Richmond P.
- 1859. Earle, William
- 1862. Ely, William D.
- 1872. Eaton, Amasa M.
- 1873. Eames, Benjamin T.
- 1873. Eldridge, James H.
- 1874. Earnst, Carl W.
- 1875. Eddy, James
- 1874. Fairbrother, Henry L.
- 1844. Cammell, William
- 1850. Goddard, William
- 1858. Gorham, John
- 1866. Greene, William
- 1869. Gardner, Peleg W.
- 1872. Grosvenor, William
- 1872. Grosvenor, William, Jr.
- 1872. Grosvenor, Robert
- 1874. Greene, Simon Henry
- 1875. Gardner, Henry W.
- 1875. Grant, Henry T.
- 1875. Griswold, William A.
- 1875. Gammell, Robert Ives
- 1859. Hilton, William D.
- 1871. Hoppin, Frederick S.
- 1871. Hazard, Rowland
- 1773. Hidden, Henry A.
- 1873. Hidden, James C.
- 1873. Howard, Henry
- 1873. Hart, Charles
- 1874. Harrington, Henry A.
- 1874. Hopkins, William H.
- 1874. Hitchcock, Albert
- 1874. Hill, Thomas J.
- 1825. Ives, Robert Hale
- 1867. Jenckes, Albert V.

ELECTED.

- 1874. Johnson, William S.
- 1867. Keene, Stephen H.
- 1873. Kendall, Henry L.
- 1874. Kellen, William
- 1869. Lester, John Erastus
- 1872. Lippitt, Henry
- 1873. Lyman, Daniel W.
- 1867. Meader, John J.
- 1873. Miller, William J.
- 1873. Mowry, William A.
- 1873. Mason, Earl P.
- 1874. Mowry, William G. R.
- 1874. McKnight, Charles G.
- 1875. Miller, Augustus S.
- 1875. Manchester, Alexander
- 1867. Nichols, Charles A.
- 1874. Nightingale, Geo. C. Jr.
- 1862. Ormsbee, John S.
- 1865. Oldfield, John
- 1847. Parsons, Charles W.
- 1849. Peckham, Samuel W.
- 1857. Padelford, Seth
- 1858. Perry, Amos
- 1867. Paine, George T.
- 1870. Pabodie, Benjamin F.
- 1873. Pearce, Edward
- 1873. Phillips, Theodore W.
- 1874. Persons, Benjamin W.
- 1874. Pabodie, Benjamin G.
- 1874. Paige, Charles F.
- 1875. Paine, Walter
- 1846. Rathbone, William P.
- 1866. Rogers, Horatio
- 1874. Richardson, Erastus
- 1848. Stone, Edwin M.
- 1856. Sabin, Charles
- 1857. Smith, James Y.
- 1857. Smith, Amos D.

ELECTED.

- 1868 Steere, Henry J.
1869 Staples, William
1869. Southwick, Isaac H.
1871. Snow, Amos W.
1873. Smith, Henry F.
1873. Swan, Jarvis B.
1873. Sellew, Clinton D.
1873. Staples, Carlton A.
1874. Shedd, J. Herbert
1874. Shaw, James, Jr.
1874. Spencer, Gideon L.
1875. Smith, Edwin A.
1875. Shearman, William O.
1856. Taft, Royal C.

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ELECTED.

1859. Taylor, Daniel A.
1873. Thurston, Benjamin F.
1874. Traver, William H.
1874. Turner, Henry E.
1874. Taylor, Charles F.
1875. Trippe, Samuel G.
1858. Williams, William G.
1861. Waterman, Rufus
1868. Westcott, Amasa S.
1868. Weeden, William B.
1874. Wales, Samuel H.
1874. Walker, John P.
1874. Whitford, George W.



L I F E M E M B E R S .

Jan. 16, 1872.	George T. Paine,	Providence.
Jan. 17, 1872.	Henry T. Beekwith,	“
Feb. 21, 1872.	William Greene,	Warwick.
April 3, 1872.	Rowland G. Hazard,	South Kingstown.
April 25, 1872.	Holder Borden Bowen,	Providence.
July 11, 1872.	Amasa M. Eaton,	North Providence.
Jan. 29, 1873.	James Y. Smith,	Providence.
July 11, 1873.	Jarvis B. Swan,	“
Jan. 26, 1874.	Benjamin G. Pabodie,	“
April 12, 1875.	Albert G. Angeli,	“

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

SPECIAL MEETING.

FEBRUARY 3, 1874.

PRESENT.—Messrs. Allen, Beekwith, Everett, Howland, Jenckes, Perry, Southwick, Stone, Williams.

Vice President Allen occupied the chair. The report of the proceedings of the last meeting was read and approved.

The Cabinet Keeper announced donations received since the last meeting as follows :

From William V. Daboll, a pair of haekles, owned and used by the wife of Joseph Williams, son of Roger Williams, more than two hundred years ago; from William G. Williams, a framed lithograph portrait of Gen. Winfield Scott, and also a large framed picture of the "Last Supper"; from J. Albert Munroe, a copy of the *Providence Gazette*, for Oct. 6, 1792; from Franklin H. Richmond, one hundred and seventy-four miscellaneous Rhode Island pamphlets; from H. T. Beekwith, *History of the War with America, France, Spain and Holland, 1775-1783*, by John Andrews, LL. D., 4 vol., London, 1785; from Casey B. Tyler, *Warwick, Almanacks, 1795, 1797, 1808, 1812, 1814, 1819, 1821, 1822*.

Rev. E. M. Stone then read a paper, entitled "A Chapter

from the Educational History of the State," giving a definite history of the Rhode Island Institute of Instruction, with a brief recital of the main facts and instrumentalities that led to its formation, and a reference to the work accomplished through its agency.

On motion of Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Beckwith, it was

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be tendered to the lecturer for his highly interesting, valuable, and instructive paper, tending to preserve the memory of the worthy men who have, from an early period in our history, labored to extend and perpetuate the blessings of good education, and that a copy be requested for the archives of the Society.

The paper called forth, in connection with the resolution, pertinent, critical and highly complimentary remarks from Mr. Perry and Vice President Allen. Rev. Dr. Coggeshall, of Little Compton, being called upon by the chairman, made a glowing and eloquent address in favor of popular education, reciting some reminiscences of the period referred to in the paper.

Adjourned.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y.*

SPECIAL MEETING.

FEBRUARY 24, 1874.

A special meeting was held at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

Vice President Allen in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read and approved.

The Librarian and Cabinet Keeper announced donations received as follows :

From the Wisconsin Historical Society; William G. Williams; Mrs. Henry Jackson; E. M. Stone; City of Providence; Dr. E. M. Snow; Thomas A. Doyle; John A. Howland; Grand Encampment of Independent Order of Odd Fellows; A. V. Jenckes.

The Secretary read extracts from a paper entitled, "Brief Sketch of the Life of the late Solomon Drowne, M. D.," by his son, William Drowne, of Foster.

At the conclusion of the reading, Rev. E. M. Stone offered the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to communicate to Mr. William Drowne, an expression of our high appreciation of his services in sketching the life and character of his father, the late Solomon Drowne, M. D., and solicit a copy of the paper from which we have heard extracts read, for the archives of our Society, expressing at the same time, in behalf of the Society, the hope that Mr. Drowne's health and strength may enable him to accomplish his other literary tasks, undertaken at the request of his relatives and friends in this Society, for the further illustration of our local history. Also,

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be extended to the Secretary for his successful efforts to bring this paper before our Society.

The resolutions were seconded, and after spirited and pertinent remarks by Rev. E. M. Stone, Vice President Allen, and Dr. Charles W. Parsons, were unanimously passed.

It was announced that the next paper would be read on March 3d or 10th, by Rev. Dr. Coggeshall, of Little Compton, on "Joshua Coggeshall, of Portsmouth, one of the founders of Quakerism in America, with notices of contemporary persons and events."

Adjourned.

AMOS PERRY, Sec'y.

SPECIAL MEETING.

TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 10, 1874.

A special meeting of the Society was held according to notice.

In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Ex-Governor Padelford was elected Chairman, *pro tem*.

The record of the last meeting was read and approved, and the Cabinet Keeper announced donations from the following persons, viz. :

J. J. Cooke, William G. Williams, of Providence; O. N. Worden, of New Milford, Penn.; Edward C. Mauran, and Mrs. Abby Mauran, of Providence; Henry T. Drowne, of New York City; J. C. Hoadley, of Hartford, Ct.; Thomas W. Bicknell, of Barrington; and Dr. E. M. Snow, of Providence.

Rev. S. W. Coggeshall, D. D., of Little Compton, then gave a learned discourse, first setting forth the advantages of historical and genealogical studies; second, giving some account of the Coggeshall family from the time of the crusades to the present time; and lastly, giving a sketch of the life and times of Joshua Coggeshall, of Portsmouth.

John Coggeshall, the father of Joshua, (who was then three years old), came to Boston in September, 1632, in the ship *Leon*, the same vessel which brought over Roger Williams nearly ten years before. John was driven from Boston, with others, for being an adherent of Ann Hutchinson, and came to Rhode Island two years after Roger Williams arrived here and settled on the Island of Aquidneck. Joshua was a Quaker as early as 1660, and took a prominent part in the affairs of the society and in the town, and his descendants, estimated at five thousand or more, are now scattered from Maine to Oregon. He died in 1689, at the age of eighty years. During the latter part of his life he was subjected to many persecutions and annoyances from the Quakers for violating their law,

which forbade a marrying within a year after the death of the former wife, and in this connection the speaker reflected somewhat severely upon the Quakers, who had themselves fled from persecution, in turn persecuting others for the violation of a law which God had not made, the same as did the Puritans. In the course of the lecture, the speaker said that Quakerism was in this State twenty-five years before Penn came to Pennsylvania, and that Penn's idea of founding a State on the principles of religious liberty was received from Rhode Island, through George Fox, who visited this State in 1673. This State was thus the first founded on that principle, religious freedom under Lord Baltimore being forced upon him by a Protestant King, and included only those who believed in Jesus Christ, while Rhode Island invited people of all faiths. He also stated that religious liberty was founded by the Quakers and the Six Principle Baptists, and not by the regular Calvinistic Baptists, who were not here in time to do it.

On motion of William A. Mowry, Esq., it was

Noted, That the thanks of the Society be tendered to the lecturer for his instructive discourse.

William J. Miller, Esq., of Bristol, was announced to read a paper before the Society, Tuesday evening, the 17th inst., on the Wampanoag Indians.

Adjourned.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y*.

SPECIAL MEETING.

TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 17, 1874.

The Society met according to notice at 7½ o'clock, Vice President Allen in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read and approved.

Donations were announced to have been received since the last meeting from :

Messrs. J. M. Addeman, Merriek Lyon, John D. Austin, J. Albert Munroe, of Providence; from Joseph Story Fay, of Holmes Hole; and from Mrs. Augusta A. Rhodes, of Indianapolis, Ind.

William J. Miller, Esq., of Bristol, was then introduced by the Chairman, and read his paper upon the "Wampanoag Tribe of Indians," referring especially to their celebrated sachem "Massasoit," the first friend and ally which the Pilgrims of Plymouth colony found among the native savages, and to his renowned son "Pometacom," or King Philip. Mr. Miller's paper gave a very interesting account of Massasoit's visit to Plymouth, and his treaty made with the English settlers there in 1620, and read from "Winslow's Narrative," his quaint and graphic account of his two subsequent visits to Massasoit, at or near the present site of Warren; of the great chief's recovery from sickness and blindness, after taking the medicines brought him by Winslow; of his revealing to "Hobomok," the guide, with instructions to tell Winslow on his return, of the plot to murder all the English by the "Massachusucks," which detained Captain Miles Standish at the settlement and saved their lives, and many other very interesting events from 1622 to 1624; he also gave the names and number of Massasoit's family, and described their characters, particularly that of King Philip, who succeeded him as chief of the tribe.

Mr. Miller's ably written and well read paper was heard with deep interest by his audience, which filled the cabinet, and after quoting from the histories of Trumbull and Fay praises of the virtues and high character of Massasoit, for truth, honor and humanity, in all his dealings with the English settlers, including Roger Williams, the founder of our own State, closed with the following sentiment, which was the first toast given at the Pilgrim Anniversary, held at Plymouth, December 22d, 1769, "To the memory of Massasoit: our first and best friend and ally, of the natives."

Rev. Mr. Stone made a few remarks upon the paper, referring to the rock on the shore in Bristol with inscriptions upon it, described in Mr. Miller's paper, (a copy of which inscriptions were shown), and to those on Dighton rock, raising the question whether it was the work of the Indians or "Norsemen," and some other interesting historical points in the paper, and offered the following resolution, which, after complimentary remarks by Rev. Mr. Staples, the President, Messrs. Perry, Williams, and others, was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society are tendered to William J. Miller, Esq., of Bristol, for the learned and very interesting paper on the "Wampanoag Tribe of Indians," read by him this evening, with the request that he furnish a copy of the same for our archives.

Mr. Miller, in response to the general expression of a desire for him to continue his history of the Indians of our State down to the later times, informed the Chairman that he would, at some future time, read another paper upon the same subject before the Society.

Adjourned.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y.*

QUARTERLY MEETING.

APRIL 7TH, 1874.

The quarterly meeting was held according to appointment at 8 o'clock, P. M., the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read and approved.

The Cabinet Keeper being absent, the numerous donations received since the last meeting were announced by the Secretary.

At the recommendation of the Committee on Nominations the following named gentlemen were elected :

RESIDENT MEMBERS.—Rev. E. G. Robinson, D. D., Prof. Charles H. Gates, William S. Johnson, Howard Jackson, Dr. Charles G. McKnight, Daniel E. Day, John P. Walker, Henry A. Harrington, Matthew Watson Armington, Albert Dailey, General Ambrose E. Burnside, Rev. William Kellen, A. Duncan Chapin, Elisha Dyer, Jr., Dr. E. T. Caswell, Rev. Micah J. Talbot, D. D., of Providence; Dr. Henry E. Turner, Edward King, of Newport; and General Olney Arnold, of Pawtucket.

CORRESPONDING MEMBER.—William J. Hoppin, Esq., of New York.

On motion of Mr. Southwick, a vote at the last annual meeting was so amended as to authorize the Committee on Grounds and Buildings to make such change in the stairway as in their judgment seems best.

On motion of Mr. Perry, the Committee on Publications was authorized to print or not, at their discretion, with the Proceedings of the last year, a paper read before the Society in the early part of this year by Rev. E. M. Stone, entitled, "A Chapter from the Educational Annals of the State."

The regular business of the meeting having been transacted, an invitation was given to the Secretary to read a paper on the Society of the Cincinnati.

Mr. Perry said :

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN.—I cheerfully comply with your request to communicate such information as I possess in regard to the Rhode Island Society of the Cincinnati. My interest in this Society was primarily awakened by the receipt of letters addressed to me from Boston and New York, asking for information which I could not furnish. It

seemed to be taken for granted in those letters that the Secretary of our Society should be able to communicate information in regard to a State institution so well known as that of the Cincinnati. Mortified at not possessing the desired information I applied to our indefatigable librarian and to numerous other intelligent and well informed gentlemen, as well as at our largest libraries. But my efforts were put forth in vain. The Society seemed to be consigned to oblivion. Despairing at length of getting on the right track here, I went to Boston, visiting the rooms of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and of the New England Historic and Genealogical Society, and the library of Harvard University. In an alcove of Gore Hall, at Cambridge, I found a neatly bound octavo pamphlet of fifteen pages entitled: "The Institution of the Society of the Cincinnati, formed by the officers of the Army of the United States, for the laudable purposes therein named, with the names of the original members of the Rhode Island Society."

This document which was kindly loaned me by the accomplished librarian of Harvard, gave a practical direction to my further researches. With this list of names I called on Mr. Truman Beckwith, whose birth occurred in the very year when the war of Independence was concluded, and the Society of the Cincinnati was founded. Mr. Beckwith's recollections of men and events in Rhode Island reach back to the period of his first residence here, in 1792. Four-fifths of the men whose names are on the subjoined list were personally known to him. With several of them he was for years on terms of intimacy. His statements and observations deserve to be recorded for reference in years to come.

The annual list of officers was found in the series of Rhode Island Registers from 1820 to 1832, inclusive, and a statement of other important facts relative to this veteran band of patriots was taken from the same source. The men who fought and bled for the liberty and independence of their country deserve to be gratefully remembered by all who participate in the blessings which their valor and patient sufferings won, and any efforts to this end will awaken grateful emotions, if they do not lead to a more just appreciation of our privileges and responsibilities.

The late Thomas Coles Hoppin was the last Secretary of the Society. He succeeded in this office Captain Samuel Snow, who served in that capacity for nineteen consecutive years. The office of Messrs. B. & T. C. Hoppin, on South Water street, as well as that of Messrs. Brown & Ives, on South Main street, was for years the resort of the veteran Cincinnati band. In the office of the former, the record book and all the official documents of the Society were kept, in a little trunk, under lock and key, during the last period of its existence.

The last Treasurer was Colonel John S. Dexter, who was chosen in 1832 to succeed Lieutenant Thomas Coles. The action of the Society is thus recorded.

"*Voted*, That Colonel John S. Dexter be Treasurer of this Society, as successor to Colonel Thomas Coles."

"*Voted*, That Thomas C. Hoppin be a committee to receive the books and papers and property belonging to this Society, and deliver the same to Colonel John S. Dexter, and take from him a receipt for the same."

As Colonel Dexter never furnished the bond and receipt required by the usages of the Society, the record book and all the official documents were left in Mr. Hoppin's possession, and on his death his eldest son, Mr. William J. Hoppin, of New York, who inherited his honors as a member of the Society of the Cincinnati, came into possession of the valuable little trunk whose key he carefully guards, and whose contents he prizes as more valuable in an historical light than gold. It is enough to say here that Mr. Hoppin has a just sense of his responsibility as the possessor of these papers. While he does not claim them as his individual property, he maintains that the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island that gave the Society its charter of incorporation can alone relieve him of the responsibility of guarding them.

It is a truly fortunate circumstance that the papers fell into the hands of a gentleman and scholar who knows their value and where they belong. Mr. Hoppin has classified, arranged and labelled the papers, making it easy to find any one of importance. Though a resident of New York, he retains a lively interest in his native State, giving encouragement that he will, at no distant day, read a paper before our Society on some topic of general interest. The part which his ancestors took in the revolutionary struggle is one of many themes worthy of his graceful pen.

In 1822, just thirty-nine years after the close of the war and the formation of this Society, thirty-six out of the seventy-two original members were living, and their names may be found in the Rhode Island Register of that year. In 1828, only fourteen of these men were living. Who was the last survivor, and when did he pass away, are enquiries not readily answered.

Mr. John Lyman, of this city, the eldest son of the late Major and Chief Justice Daniel Lyman, is the only surviving son of an original member whom I personally know. Grandsons, and great grandsons, entitled to membership, are numerous. I wish it understood that this paper is designed rather to elicit information than to communicate it. The admirable volumes recently printed by the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati, and presented to our Society, reflect an honor which no words of mine can express, and I would that a like act of honor and justice might be done in Rhode Island for the military patriots of the revolution and their male descendants. I may be permitted to refer to the lively interest in this subject already awakened. Dr. Henry E. Turner, of Newport, a grandson of Dr. Peter Turner, a surgeon of the revolutionary army, Hon. Francis Brinley, and other gentlemen who take pleasure in historical pursuits, have promised their best efforts to trace out the families and sketch the lives of the Rhode Island Cincinnati.

NAMES OF THE ORIGINAL MEMBERS OF THE RHODE ISLAND STATE
SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI, ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED.

Allen, William, Captain	Bowen, Ephraim, Junior Major
Allen, Gabriel, Captain	Bradford, William, Major
Angell, Israel, Colonel	Brown, Zephaniah, Captain
Arnold, Thomas, Captain*	Burlingame, Chandler, Lieutenant
Arnold, Joseph, Capt., Lieutenant	Channing, Walter, Lieutenant
Barney, Jabez, Ensign	Chinn, Edward, Lieutenant
Barton, William, Colonel	Coles, Thomas, Lieutenant†
Blodget, William, Major	Cook, John, Lieutenant

*The following is the inscription on the tombstone of Captain Arnold, whose remains were interred at East Greenwich: "In memory of Major Thomas Arnold, who died May 8th, 1821, aged 81 years. An affectionate husband, a kind parent, a sincere friend, an honest man. He was Captain of a Company in the darkest days of the Revolutionary War; was in the battle of Trenton, Princeton, Fort Mifflin, at the Red Bank and Monmouth. At the last he was wounded and lost a leg. For more than thirty years and at his death he was Surveyor of the port of East Greenwich."

†Thomas Coles was the son of an English Officer who was stationed in Ireland at the time of his birth. At the age of twelve years he left his home in England, and as sailor on board a merchant vessel, came to this country. After some years he joined the army, serving to the end of the Revolution. He received a Commission as Ensign in the 4th Massachusetts regiment, September 29, 1779; also, as a Lieutenant in the Massachusetts Line, November 5, 1782. He always spoke with much gratification of receiving a sword from General LaFayette. The General was reviewing the regiment of which he was a member and perceiving that his sword was broken presented him his own. The sword is at present in the possession of Frederic Hoppin, Esq., eldest son of Ex-Governor William W. Hoppin, of Rhode Island. During the latter part of the war, he was Aid-de Camp to General Patterson, receiving his commission from General Washington.

After the close of the war he for some years sailed as Captain of a vessel belonging to Clarke & Nigtingale, of this city.

April 27, 1806, he received notice from the Hon. Albert Gallatin, Secretary of the Treasury, that the following gentlemen, William Latham, Thomas Coles, and Jonathan Price, Esqs., were appointed Commissioners to survey the coast of North Carolina between Cape Hatteras and Cape Fear. Thomas Coles, in a letter dated Newbern, November 22, 1806, to Richard Jackson, Jr., Esq., of Providence, R. I., says: "The business of the survey of this coast has been attended with many perplexing circumstances, a great deal of risk, and no small proportion of vexations. However, it is now completed, and in this country gives mul-

Cornelius, Elias, Surgeon's Mate	Masury, Joseph, Lieutenant
Crary, Archibald, Colonel	Olney, Jeremiah, Lieutenant-Colonel, Commandant
Davis, Robert, Captain	Olney, Coggeshall, Major
Dexter, John S., Major	Olney, Stephen, Captain
Dexter, Daniel S., Captain	
Douville, Peter, Lieutenant of the Navy.	Parish, John, Surgeon's Mate
Ennis, William, Lieutenant	Peck, William, Major
Garzia, John, Captain	Peckham, Benjamin L., Captain
Greene, Nathanael, Major-General	Potter, William, Captain
Greene, John M., Lieutenant	Pratt, William, Lieutenant
Greenman, Jeremiah, Lieutenant	Rogers, John, Lieutenant
Hitchcock, Enos, Chaplain	Rogers, Robert, Lieutenant
Hubbard, John, Lieutenant	Sanford, Samuel, Ensign
Hughes, Thomas, Captain	Sayles, David, Captain
Humphrey, William, Captain	Senter, Isaac, Surgeon
Holden, John, Captain	Shearman, Henry, Lieutenant
	Sheldon, Daniel, Lieutenant
Jones, William, Capt. of Marines	Sherburne, Henry, Colonel
	Sherburne, Benjamin, Lieutenant
Kirkby, Ephraim, Ensign	Slocum, Edward, Captain
	Smart, Thomas, Captain
Lewis, Elijah, Captain	Snow, Samuel, Captain
Littlefield, William, Capt., Lieut.	Spurr, John, Major
Lyman, Daniel, Major	Tew, William, Captain
	Thayer, Simeon, Major
Macomber, Ebenezer, Captain	Turner, Peter, Surgeon

versal satisfaction; indeed, it is the first survey of the kind ever made in America, by order of the government."

He received a commission as Commissary General of the State of Rhode Island, from Governor James Fenner, June 27, 1808. He was one of the original members of the Rhode Island State Society of the Cincinnati, and Treasurer of the same for many years. His appointment upon parchment of January, 1784, signed by J. Knox, Secretary, and George Washington, President, calls him; "Thomas Coles, Esq., a Captain in the late Army of the United States."

He was Collector of the port of Providence from 1809 to 1829. He is pronounced by his contemporaries who still survive a gentleman of the old school, of commanding presence and elegant manners.

Captain Coles was born December 9, 1752. He was married to Sally Walker, daughter of Ephraim Walker, of Providence, R. I., by the Rev. Joseph Snow, pastor of the Congregational Church in Providence, on the twenty-first day of February, A. D. 1779. He died October 13th, 1841.

Varnum, James M., Brigadier-General	Welch, John, Lieutenant Wheaton, Joseph, Lieutenant Whipple, Abraham, Captain of the Navy
Wallen, Jonathan, Captain	Whitmarsh, Joseph, Lieutenant
Ward, Samuel, Lieutenant-Colonel	Whitmarsh, Micah, Lieutenant

NAMES OF MEMBERS ADMITTED IN RIGHT OF THEIR DECEASED FATHERS.

Jacob Carpenter, Peter Douville, Job Greene, John Shaw, Stephen Thayer, John Weeks,	} Date of admission not given, but it was evidently before 1802.
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Dr. Horace Senter, admitted in 1801, in place of his father, Dr. Isaac Senter.

Nathaniel Greene Senter, admitted in 1804, in place of his father, Dr. Isaac Senter.

Pelatiah Hitchcock, admitted in 1803, in place of his father, Rev. Enos Hitchcock.

Peter Douville, admitted in 1805, in place of his father, Peter Douville.

Christopher R. Greene, admitted in 1809, in place of his father, Job Greene.

Samuel Masury, admitted in 1814, in place of his father, Lieutenant Joseph Masury.

Charles Bird King, admitted in 1817, in place of his father, Zebulon King.

Colonel William Blodget, admitted in 1817, in place of his father, Major William Blodget.

William Bradford, admitted in 1819, in place of his father, Major William Bradford.

Thomas C. Hoppin, admitted in 1822, in place of his father-in-law, William Jones.

George N. Allen, admitted in 1823, in place of his father, General William Allen.

Joseph Hubbard, admitted in 1825, in place of his father, Lieutenant John Hubbard.

Daniel Sheldon, admitted in 1824, in place of his father Lieutenant Daniel Sheldon.

Colonel Enos Cutler, admitted in 1828, in place of Pelatiah Hitchcock.

Henry Ward, admitted in 1832, in place of his father, Colonel Samuel Ward.

Some omissions and errors are manifest in the records. Thus the names of George W. Cole and of Pardon Sayles appear in the book of records

as members present at the annual meetings; but the date of their admission and whose places they fill are not stated. It is presumed, however, that George W. Cole was the son of Captain Thomas Cole, and that Pardon Sayles was the son of Captain David Sayles. Hollis Condy is reported present at the meetings in 1816 and 1818. Who was he? Charles Bird King was admitted in 1817, in right of his father, Zebulon King. But nothing is found on the records showing who the father of Zebulon King was. Two sons of Dr. Isaac Senter, one admitted in 1801, and the other in 1804, are said to fill his place. Colonel Enos Cutler, admitted in 1828, is said to fill the place of Pelatiah Hitchcock, but what relation existed between these two members does not appear from the records. Jacob Carpenter, Job Greene, John Shaw, Stephen Thayer and John Weeks are said to be admitted in the right of their deceased fathers, but who their fathers were does not appear on record. It is to be hoped that many points of this kind may be cleared up by information communicated before the reading of another paper.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Hon. Benjamin Bourne, admitted in 1801.

Hon. Christopher G. Champlin, admitted in 1801.

John James Clark, Esq., admitted in 1801.

Hon. Ray Greene, admitted in 1801.

Mr. Thomas P. Ives, admitted in 1801.

Hon. Francis Malbone, admitted in 1801.

George Gibbs, Esq., admitted in 1804.

Hon. Elisha R. Potter, admitted in 1810.

Com. Oliver Hazzard Perry, admitted in 1814.

Gen. James B. Mason, admitted in 1817.

Gen. Albert C. Greene, admitted in 1820.

Hon. John Brown Francis, admitted in 1830.

Surgeon David Oliphant, and Lieut. John Yeomans were admitted from other State Societies on taking up their residence in Rhode Island.

In 1789 the vote was passed, that all military titles and distinctions shall, in future, be discontinued by this Society; still the titles were very generally put upon the records.

The charter or act of incorporation was passed by the General Assembly in the year 1814. In the year 1832 the following votes were passed:

Resolved, That the Charter of Incorporation of this Society be surrendered to the legislature of the State, the Society be dissolved, and the funds be divided and distributed to the surviving original members, and to the legal heirs or representatives of those who have deceased, in proportion to their several original deposits, deducting from their respective proportions any advances which may have been made by way of loans or otherwise.

Resolved, That the President, Treasurer, and John S. Dexter, be a Committee to carry the preceding resolution into effect, and that, on their completion of this business, notice thereof be given by them to all concerned.

Voted, That said Committee be empowered to sell, from time to time, such and so many shares of the Bank stock belonging to the Company as occasion may require for the complete and entire distribution of the funds.

OFFICERS OF THE RHODE ISLAND STATE SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI.

Presidents.

- 1783. Major-General Nathanael Greene.
- 1786. Brigadier-General James M. Varnum.
- 1789. Dr. Isaac Senter.
- 1800. Colonel Jeremiah Olney.
- 1814. Colonel John S. Dexter.
- 1818. Major Daniel Lyman.
- 1831. Colonel Ephraim Bowen.

Vice Presidents.

- 1783. Brigadier-General James M. Varnum.
- 1786. Colonel Henry Sherburne.
- 1788. Dr. Isaac Senter.
- 1789. Colonel Jeremiah Olney.
- 1800. Colonel Archibald Crary.
- 1812. Colonel John S. Dexter.
- 1814. Major Daniel Lyman.
- 1818. Colonel Ephraim Bowen.
- 1831. Lieutenant Robert Rogers.

Secretaries.

- 1783. Colonel Henry Sherburne.
Major Daniel Lyman, Secretary, *pro tempore*.
- 1784. Colonel John S. Dexter.
Colonel Henry Sherburne, Secretary, *pro tempore*.
- 1789. Lieutenant Robert Rogers.
- 1803. Captain Daniel S. Dexter.
- 1806. Captain William Allen.
- 1807. Lieutenant Thomas Coles.
- 1808. Captain William Allen.

1812. Captain Samuel Snow.

1831. Thomas C. Hoppin, who was admitted a member in place of his father-in-law. Captain of the Marines, and afterwards Governor William Jones.

Treasurers.

1783. Colonel Jeremias Olney.

Major John S. Dexter, Assistant Treasurer.

1790. Captain William Allen.

1791. Colonel Ephraim Bowen.

1818. George Olney, admitted in 1813, in place of his deceased brother, Jeremiah Olney.

1825. Lieutenant Thomas Coles.

1832. Colonel John S. Dexter.

The last meeting and election of officers recorded, took place on the 4th of July, 1835. The last words in the record book are thus: "Adjourned to meet at this place 4th July next."

Thus fifty-two years after its organization, the Society lost vitality and ceased to exist, and now, after the lapse of thirty-nine more years, its existence has almost passed from the memory of men. The question has lately been asked by some hereditary members—May it not be revived, if not from patriotic motives, at least for social and historical purposes?

It is an open question. If the example set by the Massachusetts Society could be followed, the answer would be emphatically, yes. Let the sons be reminded of the virtues of the fathers, and the memory of noble deeds be perpetuated to the latest generation.

At the conclusion of the paper a vote of thanks was passed, and the Secretary was invited to read another paper on the same subject at an early day.

Adjourned.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y.*

SPECIAL MEETING.

APRIL 21, 1874.

A special meeting was held at 8 o'clock, P. M.

The President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read and approved.

The donations received since the last meeting were announced.

The President then introduced Henry C. Dorr, Esq., of New York, who read an interesting paper on "The Early Town Meetings of Providence."

The social life of Rhode Island, said he, in its early days received but occasional notice by contemporary writers. At present, our information is too much of a negative character, and we are too imperfectly informed of the state of affairs to give true and complete account of the political and social events of the day.

The early constitution of Providence tended to remove the needful respect for public office, and the rotation of incumbents to office was much more frequent than now-a-days. There was for a long while after the settlement of Providence, no marked inequality of property. There was no class of rich men, such as distinguished Boston in its early days, and we find no record of any person keeping servants until the introduction of slaves.

Many of the ancient records of Providence were lost by negligence, or perished in the war of King Philip, and we have very scanty records of the proceedings of town meetings before Providence gained its charter. "The book with brass-clasps," as it was called, contained the records of about everything that was done in Providence, whether relating to property, law or business. Throughout the first century of the town, the minute and close hand writing of its documents are sufficiently suggestive of economy and narrow means. We are not without aid in recalling the primitive customs of the assemblies of the town; they were

certainly resolved not to be governed by any precedents of Massachusetts. After the little republic began its life under the charter, its inhabitants, had they possessed the means, had scarcely the means of a rigid enforcement of law, but gradually adopted the forms of regular government. The great days of assembling the freeholders were those of the elections and the "great town quarter days," as they were styled. In the earlier years of the town its meetings were held in the open air, commonly under a wide-spreading button-wood tree in the town street. These assemblies of the freeholders were duly warned by the Town Sergeant by beat of drum. At first it was hard to get the freeholders to attend these meetings and fines were imposed upon those that stayed away. It was voted at one of them that a quorum should consist of ten men, but it was difficult to get even ten men together, and finally the number was reduced to seven. The men could not afford to leave their day's work for such purposes. The pacific policy of Williams was injured by the aggressions of the neighboring colonies and the traffic in rum with the Indians. The liquor business became a burden to the town at an early day. As respected white men, whatever privation they endured, there was no lack of liquor. The primitive townsmen were anxious that no man should have better drink than his neighbors, and that perfect equality in this respect should be enforced. The effect of liquor importation was soon manifest, and that some restraint upon it was necessary may be shown by a vote of the citizens in 1656, when it was ordered that a cage should be made for the imprisonment of inebriates.

The same bitterness of feeling with which the early settlers regarded the neighboring colonies was manifest in the contests between the citizens. Henry Vane charges the town with tumults, disorders and discouragements in 1653. These early meetings of the town were not wanting in boisterous scenes, such as are found in some of the frontier towns in that day. The old records show that the town had no lack of pugnacious disputants and men more likely to make laws than to enforce them. Until one hundred and forty years after the charter we do not find any mention of public schools supported by public money. Town meetings, too, in those days, created at will new offences and new measures for their punishment, but the authority of the first charter decade, the records give evidence of a better condition of affairs. There was more regularity in public proceedings and greater care in the preservation of evidence of property. The sense of insecurity was ever present with the good people of the town, and in 1654 it was ordered by the town that the farmers should have liberty to leave one man at home on training day. Quarrels about matters of local concern, and with the Massachusetts people were silenced by King Philip's war, so disastrous to the town. The houses were burned, many of the best inhabitants left never to return, public records and public deeds were lost, and surveys perished. The most hopeless depreciation of the number of inhabitants must indeed have made town meetings gloomy. For many years after

Philip's war few new roads were made, and but little attention was paid to the improvement of waste land. The laxity of the early town government had made Providence the asylum of many disagreeable emigrants. The reenactment of ancient votes seems to show that not much attention was paid to them.

But scanty materials remain for sketches of village politicians of the primitive Democracy. In the generation succeeding Roger Williams was Pardon Tillinghast. However prominent as a preacher, he was not less so as a politician. In 1672 he was one of the disputants in the debates with George Fox at Newport. He held several public offices, but all these vocations he found not incompatible with the care of the small religious society of which he was a minister. When Massachusetts was filled with the terrors of witchcraft, when families were broken up and scattered, not the slightest trace of excitement appears recorded in the old documents of Providence. The early days of the eighteenth century found the town in an unprosperous condition; but as years rolled on, and a new generation forgot the sorrows and losses of Philip's war, prosperity returned. Population covered the valleys of the Blackstone and Pawtucket. The great town quarter days which had been at first so great a burden, became public holidays. The people assembled at the taverns, and ample store of the primitive drinks of New England—rum and cider—were laid in by the landlords for the occasion, before hand. The first business of the meeting was the reading of the most recent acts of the General Assembly, and statutes of more than usual interest were also published by the Town Sergeant, at the street corners. It is evident, from the records, that the old controversies had passed away in these later days. No mention is made of religious differences or troubles with Massachusetts. All the jealousies had passed away, and new ones, less rankerous, perhaps, had taken their places. In 1756, when the seven years war commenced, the townsmen found new enterprises to engage their attention. It appears that during this war that one citizen of the town lost one hundred and sixty-three sloops and schooners, mostly privateers. But many were much richer when the war ended than when it began. With the increase of wealth and population some of the old evils passed away, but there was still much division among the people on some questions, and in 1763 so rooted were the dislikes of the citizens on each side of the river, toward each other, that it was proposed to create a new town on the west side, to be called Westminster. Westminster street remains as a memento of the disintegrating influences that were then at work. The effect of the seven years war was to make a great many persons, previously poor, rich, and the town meetings were now enlivened by men dressed in scarlet and sky-blue broadcloth, and wearing immense cambric ruffles, silk stockings, and silver shoe buckles. The increase of population gave a better tone to the town meetings and did much to remedy their evils.

As town after town was established, Providence at last gained a con-

trol of her own forces, and could make improvements, without hindrance, from obstinate tax-payers from the country.

At the conclusion of the reading, Prof. J. Lewis Diman offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Henry C. Dorr, Esq., for his interesting and critical lecture, and that a copy be requested for the archives of the Society.

The motion was seconded by Rev. E. M. Stone, and was passed unanimously.

It was announced that the next meeting would be held on the 5th of May, when a paper would be read by William A. Mowry, Esq., on "Who Invented the American Steamboat?"

Adjourned.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y*.

SPECIAL MEETING.

MAY 5, 1874.

A special meeting was held at 8 o'clock, P. M., the President in the chair.

After the reading of the record of the last meeting, a letter from the Secretary of the Franklin Society was read, communicating an offer of that Society of the use of their rooms for the meetings of the Historical Society.

The Secretary was instructed to reply to this letter, ex-

pressing the thanks of the Historical Society, and the probable acceptance of their offer at some future time.

Mr. William A. Mowry then read a well considered and carefully prepared paper in answer to the question, "Who Invented the American Steamboat?"

The paper was followed with critical and complimentary remarks by the President and Vice President.

The thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. Mowry, for his interesting and valuable paper and a copy was requested for the archives of the Society.

A special meeting was announced to be held on the 19th inst., to listen to the reading of a paper on Rhode Island Privateering.

Adjourned.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y.*

SPECIAL MEETING.

MAY 19, 1874.

A special meeting of the Society was held at the Cabinet at 8 o'clock, P. M., the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read and approved.

The Librarian and Cabinet Keeper announced numerous donations received within the last month.

The President of the Society then read a paper entitled "Exploits of a Rhode Island Privateer," which he read from advance sheets of the "*Overland Monthly*."

A conversation followed the reading in regard to some topics suggested by the paper.

Adjourned.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y.*

QUARTERLY MEETING.

JULY 7, 1874.

The quarterly meeting of the Society was held this evening, at 8 o'clock, the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read and approved.

The Cabinet Keeper reported numerous donations received since the last meeting.

The Committee on the election of members recommended the following names, and they were accordingly elected :

RESIDENT MEMBERS.—Edwin M. Snow, George E. Mason, Robert Miller, Charles F. Taylor, James Shaw, Jr., of Providence; Simon Henry Greene, of Warwick; Erastus Richardson, of Woonsocket; and Preserved W. Arnold, of Pawtucket.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.—Hon. William W. Greenough, of Boston; Rev. Samuel Osgood, D. D., of New York City; Colonel John Ward, of New York; and Alexander Duncan, Esq., of England.

The committee having in charge the change of stairway, was authorized to draw on the treasury for the balance due.

The same committee was authorized to purchase a glass case for the protection and display of numerous curious and valuable articles belonging to the Society.

A committee consisting of the President, Dr. Collins, and Messrs. B. F. Pabodie and I. H. Southwick, was appointed to devise some plan for the arrangement, classification and cataloguing of all the books, pamphlets, manuscripts, and objects of every nature belonging to the Society, and report at some future meeting.

It was voted that the reading of a genealogical account of one branch of the Greene family, prepared by Hon. Simon Henry Greene, of Warwick, be deferred till the next quarterly meeting.

Adjourned.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y.*

QUARTERLY MEETING.

OCTOBER 6, 1874.

The quarterly meeting was held at 8 o'clock this evening, the President in the chair.

The records of the last meeting were read, together with letters of acceptance and thanks received from the corresponding members elected at the last quarterly meeting, viz. :

Hon. William W. Greenough, Hon. Alexander Duncan, Col. John Ward, and Rev. Samuel Osgood, D. D.

Mr. Duncan's letter is as follows :

SCOTLAND, July 31st, 1874.

"MY DEAR MR. PERRY :—I had yesterday the pleasure of receiving your esteemed favor of the 16th, informing me that the Rhode Island Historical Society had honored me by electing me a Corresponding Member thereof. It is most gratifying to me to receive this mark of respect from the members of the Historical Society, the more so, as it is an evidence that, though circumstances have made it necessary for me no longer to be a resident amongst them, my old friends have not forgotten me.

If I can in any way be of use to the Society, it will afford me great pleasure to serve them to the best of my ability. Please assure the members of this. I remain,

Yours faithfully,

ALEX'R DUNCAN.

The Cabinet Keeper announced numerous donations received since the last meeting.

Hon. Simon Henry Greene then read a paper containing a valuable and interesting account of that branch of the Greene family to which he belongs, together with a statement of many facts pertaining to the life and character of the late John L. Hughes, and several other distinguished Rhode Island citizens.

At the conclusion of the reading, which occupied an hour's time, the following resolution, offered by Rev. E. M. Stone, and seconded by Vice President Allen, was unanimously passed :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Hon. Simon Henry Greene, for his valuable and interesting paper, and that a copy be requested for the archives of the Society.

Pending the passage of the resolution, appreciative and complimentary remarks were offered by the President, the Cabinet Keeper, and the Secretary.

The meeting was then adjourned to meet at the call of the Secretary.

Adjourned.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y.*

ADJOURNED QUARTERLY MEETING.

NOVEMBER 10, 1874.

An adjourned quarterly meeting was held this evening at 7½ o'clock, Vice President Allen in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read by the Secretary and the donations received were announced by the Cabinet Keeper.

Rev. E. M. Stone then read a paper vindicating the claims of the late Thomas A. Telft, to special honor for propounding the system of universal currency whose main features have since been approved by an international congress and promise to be generally adopted.

Rev. E. M. Stone presented, in behalf of Mrs. Lucy D. Bucklin, a collection of silver and copper coins which once belonged to the late Thomas Alexander Telft, of Providence, and which were used by him in Europe while working out the problem of a universal currency.

In presenting these coins, Mr. Stone said :

I wish to offer a few words of explanation. It is well known to those who have read a brief memoir of the late Thomas Alexander Telft, which I had the honor to read before this Society, and which was subsequently printed, that before visiting Europe in 1856, he had devoted much thought to the question of a universal currency. On arriving in London he found the subject engrossing the attention of the scientists of England and of the Continent.

Combe, Yates, Meekins, Jones, Franklin, Slater, Professor Hennessy, Mann, and others, had written learnedly upon this theme, but neither of them had succeeded in winning, to their respective schemes, a support that would ensure the adoption by the government of either of them. Professor J. H. Alexander, from the United States, was also in London, endeavoring to secure the favorable action of the House of Commons, upon a plan of 'identity of coinage' between Great Britain and the United States; but he failed to make the desired impression. It was at this juncture that Mr. Telft presented his scheme, which he had embodied in a paper read by request before the Institute of Social Science at Liverpool, Lord Brougham presiding. He proposed as a preliminary step to harmonizing the currencies of all nations to harmonize that of the United States, Great Britain and France, on principles that would at once render it easy for the German, Spanish, Russian and Italian countries to adopt, thus giving a uniform currency to two hundred and thirty millions of people. His ideas may be best presented in his own language. In the paper before mentioned he says:

"A plan for attaining this universal currency, to be successful, must have regard to the prejudices and types of coins of the principal nations. The English, or American, or French method alone, does not meet the case. The plan I propose, which to me appears to be the most perfect and practicable, employs the oldest, the most widely known, and the most economical unit, with the French metrical system as the basis. It being thus connected with the decimal system of weight, it would inevitably lead to uniformity in weight and measures.

"I propose the metrical dollar as a standard monetary unit; its value to be 1.6 grammes of gold, 9-10ths fine, the value of the present standard of 5 francs, 9-10ths fine, being 1.6129 grammes. Such a unit, thus established on an enduring basis, will allow the principal types of coins of the leading nations to remain undisturbed, and offer at the same time similar inducements for all nations to join in its adoption. My plan has reference to France, England and America, because it is much more feasible to obtain the desired legislation, at first, from a limited number of States than from all; and any plan of currency adopted by the three nations foremost in arts, in manufactures, and in commerce, would, without doubt, become the currency of the world. The reasons for selecting the dollar as the unit of this general system are as follows: It is the oldest of existing money units, being coined at Joachimsthaler (hence the name) in 1519. The present franc was introduced in 1799, and the present pound in 1816. The dollar is also best known of all western units in the East;

in some parts of India and China, it being the only well-known unit. At the same time this unit has been very permanent in its value, and it is the intermediate unit between the franc and the pound. It exists in a large and increasing currency, Canada having recently adopted it. It exists in name, or as a money type, in all America, in the German, Spanish, Russian, and Italian countries, thus circulating among two hundred and thirty millions of people; and in the standard I have proposed it renders the re-coinage necessary on about the same conditions in each country. The dollar is the most economical unit, because it starts with the commonest small coin in use for its cent or hundredth part. The kopek in Russia, the bajoccho in Italy, the krentzer in Austria, the sou or piece of five centimes in France, the cent in America, and the half penny in England, are the smallest coins of most frequent circulation. A unit with cents smaller than the ordinary coins makes unnecessary figures, and a unit so large that the cent is above the common coin, incurs the use of the mill or a third decimal, and thus becomes a heavy, unwieldy system. The unit of the franc is so small that the "centime" is rarely met with, and yet all French money accounts are uselessly swelled out from this reason.

"I propose then, the gold dollar, the same as the present five-franc piece in form, connected with the metrical system and of the following standard, as the universal monetary unit. Its value to be exactly the same as five francs of the French or four shillings of the English currency, under the new system.

"The cherished national types of coins, the Napoleon, the sovereign and the eagle—the half-dollar and the florin—the quarter, the shilling, and the franc, the penny, the cent or sou, and the present centime, would thus remain undisturbed; although *they would all bear their numerical value in dollars and cents*. On one side of each coin would be the national medallion, name of country and date; on the other side in the centre would be the numerical value the same as now stamped on the French coinage, viz.: 25 cents, 1 dollar, 5 dollars, etc.; *and on the border of this side should be added the decimal weight and fineness*. The equivalent of the new unit, in francs or shillings, might be added in smaller figures if deemed necessary. By this means, distinct nationality of coinage would be preserved as much as at present, while the common language on each coin would be recognized everywhere and be a means of education wherever it should go. Indeed, this plan, while it would give internationality and the advantages of the most economical of decimal systems to those who desired them, would leave others the liberty of retaining the present system, if they desired it.

"In this re-stamping of money, the French coins now issued should be regarded as the models of taste and excellence; as a high artistic quality and the perfection of the most expensive machinery are the best safeguards from counterfeiting. According to this plan, then, France could adopt a more economical unit without change of system, and England

obtain a decimal currency founded on the decimal system of weight, employing at the same time their most familiar types of coins; a condition essential to any change of currency.

'It is this practical view of the subject which has led me to propose the smallest possible change from the present weight of coinage, in order to obtain harmony in the currencies. But let it be distinctly understood that the proposed depreciation of weight would be so slight that it would not be known in all the ordinary commercial transactions. The value of the franc, the dollar, and the pound, would remain the same in their respective countries in ordinary trading intercourse. The old gold and silver coin of America, or the silver of France, would only obtain premium rates when taken for exportation or in large specie trades, and then this premium would always be highest at the Mint, and, therefore, the old money would, without expense to government, soon be replaced by the new. It would also be easy to change the present currencies, whether in money or account, into the new unit. Pounds multiplied by 5 would be dollars; shillings divided by 4 would be dollars and cents. Francs divided by 5 would be dollars and cents. To change the English into the French currency is much more difficult. In weight there would also be an advantage over the present French system. Gold is chiefly used for very good reasons in balancing exchanges. Very little silver is brought to the weight-test compared with gold; and yet fifty francs at present weigh 16.129 grammes. I propose ten dollars, or fifty francs, should weigh 16 grammes, and, consequently, twenty five dollars would = forty grammes, fifty dollars = eighty grammes, etc. The kilogramme of standard gold would be six hundred and twenty-five dollars: at present it is nearly three thousand one hundred francs.

"For the feasibility of changing the standard in America, where the change would be greatest, I would refer to the change of $7\frac{1}{4}$ grains of fine gold per five dollars in 1834, while I propose less than five grains.

"In the adoption of such an international currency there would of course be obstacles to encounter, but these would soon disappear in the educational and commercial advantages that would follow.

"Should England, in view of this change, adopt the American rate of seignorage of $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent., and France increase hers to the same amount, then the actual difference between the old and new gold coins would be very nearly in America .014, in England .012, and in France .003 per cent.

"In the adoption of the universal currency, and thereby inaugurating it in other countries, France would obtain a more economical unit, would simplify the weight of her gold coinage and bring her silver to the gold standard. She would at the same time be extending, almost immediately, the benefits of the decimal system of weight to the rest of the civilized world.

"A congress of commissioners from France, England, and America, during the coming year, to be called by the Emperor Napoleon, is sug-

gested as the most immediate and certain mode of bestowing upon the commercial nations the boon of a universal currency.

"In silver, the English shilling would be twenty-five cents, and the florin would be fifty cents—the largest silver piece in the new currency. The five-franc and two-franc pieces would be dispensed with, and the half-dollar employed in their stead. The franc would be retained, from its long established name and associations, as twenty cents, instead of dividing the half dollar into quarters, as in England and America.

"In copper coin, the two-cent piece, the same as the two-centime piece now used in France, would be the penny in England, and the cent, or centime, as it would be called in France, would be equal to five centimes of the present French money, or nearly the half-penny in England. The half-cent would represent the farthing and the quarter cent, or $2\frac{1}{2}$ mill piece, would be required to make the *exact* change for six-pence and three-pence of present English money, (the new penny being four per cent. less than the old); while the one-fifth cent., or two mills, would be precisely the same as the present centime in France."

This paper was printed in London, and passed through two editions. It was republished in Belgium. A translation of the essential parts into French was made by M. Richy, in Paris, which he caused to be published at Brussels. It thus obtained a wide circulation on both sides of the channel, and immediately attracted the attention of the leading monetarians of the British Isles and of the continent. The plan thus devised by Mr. Tefft was everywhere received with marked courtesy, and generally with approval. The American Minister at Paris, Hon. J. Y. Mason, writing to Mr. Tefft, says:

"Your plan of giving harmony to the units of the pound sterling, the franc, and the dollar, by a very slight change of the quantity of precious metal used in coinage, appears to be wise and practical. It does not rudely interfere with habits long established, and will give a coin whose value will be understood by all whether they use money of one or the other denomination. The same piece of coin will represent, on its face, and may be used as of its true value, as Sterling in England, Francs in France, and Dollars in the United States. The system may with equal facility, if not with greater advantage, be extended to Germany, Italy, and the countries of Northern Europe, to Asia, and the whole world."

In a note of acknowledgment, written by the late Count Cavour, then Prime Minister of Sardinia, he says:

"I have read with interest your pamphlet on Universal Currency. I consider your project as useful and easily applicable in the countries where the French system prevails. The equalization of currency is a measure of which the necessity will soon become evident. . . . I wish you may succeed in convincing your countrymen and the English of the expediency of such a measure."

And Professor Henry Hennessy, of the Catholic University of Ireland,

who, as already mentioned, had written learnedly on the subject, wrote to Mr. Telft these approving words:

"Although I should prefer to see the present French system of coinage as well as of weights and measures established for universal usage, by all mankind, I cannot hesitate in saying that your proposal is the best of those in which any new features are presented. Indeed, I should be quite in favor of accepting it if no difficulties should arise among continental countries, and especially in France."

These testimonials of approval are only specimens of the many Mr. Telft received, but which time will not permit me here to read.

It will be noticed that, among other measures, Mr. Telft proposed a Congress of Commissioners, representing France, England, and America, to meet at Brussels, to determine upon some plan, like the one he had projected, and by means of international treaty, secure its adoption by different governments. For such a Convention, to be held in Switzerland, preliminary steps were taken under the sanction of the American Ministers to Switzerland and France, but the sudden death of Mr. Telft, at Florence, December 12th, 1859, prevented the consummation of that purpose. How much the labors of Mr. Telft contributed to the formation and development of a public opinion in Europe which ultimated in an International Congress at Berlin, in 1863, the Trade Conference at Frankfort, in 1864, and the International Conference at Paris, in 1867, it is not needful now to consider. It may be sufficient to say, that the latter Conference, in which nineteen nations were represented, after a session of nine days, decided upon and recommended a plan for "the unification of the money systems" of all nations, which, in all its essential features, is identical with the one devised by Mr. Telft, and circulated in print seven years before, all over England, Continental Europe, and the United States. It is to be regretted that so large and influential a body should have failed to recognize the merits of one whose system of unification they in substance appropriated. It is not claimed for Mr. Telft that he was the first to conceive of a universal currency; but it is claimed that he was the first to demonstrate the practicability of unifying the currencies of the world, without changing the names of coins, or in any way interfering with the long established habits of nations, or stirring up jealousies among them. And now, that civilized nations are more than ever turning attention to a question of such importance, it seems due to the memory of one who presented to all Europe the "American idea" of a gold standard, and who bridged over the difficulties that for centuries had stood in the way of a harmonized universal currency, that his name should be enrolled high among the distinguished scientists of the age. For, to use words uttered on another occasion, it is something deserving of remembrance, and to be spoken of, that a young man, unheralded by the press, without the adventitious support of wealth or of influential patrons, should, by the force of his intellect, the quickness of his perceptions, and the power of adaptation, have simpli-

fied an intricate subject, supplanted doubt with faith, and won to an acceptance of his ideas, the eminent economists of his day. Of such an achievement Rhode Island, whose son he was,—this Society, of which he was a member,—and Brown University, of which he was a graduate, may justly be proud.

At the conclusion of the paper remarks were offered by Rev. Dr. Caswell, Hon. William Grosvenor Vice President Allen and others.

On motion of Dr. Collins, Rev. Mr. Stone received the thanks of the Society for his interesting and valuable paper, and was requested to lay before the Society such action as he deemed advisable in support of Mr. Tefft's claims to honor as a monetarian.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Nominations, Mr. Lyman C. Draper, of Madison, Wis., and Rev. William Barry, of Chicago, Ill., were elected corresponding members, and Hon. Brantz Mayer, of Baltimore, was elected honorary member.

The thanks of the Society were presented to Mrs. James C. Bucklin for the donation of the coins once belonging to the late Mr. Tefft.

The meeting adjourned to meet at the call of the Secretary.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y.*

ADJOURNED QUARTERLY MEETING.

NOVEMBER 24, 1874.

An adjourned quarterly meeting was held this evening at 7½ o'clock. Vice-President Allen in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read and approved.

The Secretary communicated to the Society a letter from Rev. E. M. Stone, stating his inability to be present, on account of indisposition, enclosing the fragment of a plan of the town of Providence as it existed in 1717, expressing an interest in the subject of the evening's discussion, and suggesting that the information elicited should be recorded and preserved.

On recommendation of the standing committee on membership, Messrs. Charles F. Page, Arba B. Dike, and Frank G. Allen were elected resident members.

The Secretary then read an ordinance which was passed by the town council of Providence in the spring of 1806, giving the old and the new names of seventy-six different streets, and was printed in the Providence *Phoenix* on the 14th of June of the same year. The paper was loaned for the occasion by Mr. William G. Williams.

Vice-President Allen explained at length the plan originally adopted in laying out the town.

The meeting was unusually large and much interest was manifested in the subject under consideration, many members and other gentlemen asking questions and communicating in-

formation. Among those who contributed to the interest of the occasion were Vice President Allen, Hon. Thomas A. Doyle, Hon. George L. Clarke, and Messrs. John E. Lester, Jonathan Angell and Christopher Burr. The session continued nearly two hours, and at the adjournment, numerous individual applications were made to the Committee on Lectures and Papers that one evening might be devoted in the course of the winter to "the men, manners and customs of olden times."

Adjourned.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y.*

SPECIAL MEETING.

DECEMBER 8, 1874.

A meeting was held this evening, at 7½ o'clock, the President in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read and approved.

On motion of the Secretary, the following resolution, after having been seconded and remarked upon by Vice President Allen, was unanimously passed :

Resolved, That Drs. George L. Collins and Charles W. Parsons, of Providence; Hon. Francis Brinley, of Newport; William J. Miller, Esq., of Bristol; and John G. Clarke, Esq., of South Kingstown, be a committee to devise and carry out measures for the observance of the bi-centennial anniversary of King Philip's War, reporting to the Society early the ensuing year the result of their deliberations.

The President then introduced Erastus Richardson, Esq., of Woonsocket, who read a paper entitled, "A Providence Plantation." It was really a succinct history of the early settlement in the northerly part of the State, particularly of those made in and about Woonsocket, with critical notices of the men, manners, and customs of the times.

At the conclusion of the paper, on motion of Vice President Allen, seconded by Mr. Williams, the thanks of the Society were presented to the lecturer for his elaborate and highly interesting paper, and a copy was requested for the archives of the Society.

While speaking in support of this resolution, the Secretary read part of a letter from Dr. Henry E. Turner, of Newport, expressing a lively interest in genealogical studies, and his wish to appeal to the State for aid in carrying out the work which he has in view.

Adjourned.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y.*

SPECIAL MEETING.

DECEMBER 22, 1874.

The meeting this evening was called to order at 7½ o'clock by Vice President Allen.

After the reading of the record of the last evening, the Chairman offered a few brief remarks in favor of free com-

munication in a conversational way on various topics that come up for consideration. Then calling the Secretary to the chair he occupied an hour and a half, to the delight of the numerous audience, explaining the manners, fashions and usages of earlier times. He was assisted in illustrating several antiquated fashions by Mr. Charles T. Miller, who also recited a humorous poem relating to early scenes in Providence.

Among the gentlemen who participated in the exercises by offering brief remarks, were Messrs. J. Erastus Lester, Geo. T. Paine, James H. Read, General James Shaw.

Mr. J. H. Atwater presented to the Society a compass set in a stand turned from an oak log that probably formed a part of the first Weybosset Bridge, built about the year 1660.

It being the anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, a reference was made to that event, and a tribute of honor was paid to the fathers who laid the foundations of our liberty in this western world.

Adjourned.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y.*

ANNUAL MEETING.

JANUARY 19, 1875.

The attendance is unusually large. The President calls

the meeting to order at 7.45 when the record of the last meeting is read, and also that of the last annual meeting.

The Treasurer reads his report, showing a balance on hand of \$1,477.44. The report is received and placed on file.

A letter is read from the Librarian and Cabinet Keeper regretting his inability to attend the meeting on account of severe illness, and expressing the hope that he would be able to present his report at the next meeting.

The officers of the Society were then elected as follows :

President,	-	-	-	* Samuel G. Arnold.
Vice Presidents,	-	-	-	Zachariah Allen, Francis Brinley.
Secretary,	-	-	-	Amos Perry.
Treasurer,	-	-	-	Richmond P. Everett.
Librarian and Cabinet Keeper, Northern Department,	-	-	-	Rev. E. M. Stone.
Librarian and Cabinet Keeper, Southern Department,	-	-	-	Benjamin B. Howland.
Committee on the Nomination of New Members,				George L. Collins, William G. Williams, Albert V. Jenckes.
Committee on Lectures and Reading of Papers,				William Gammell, Amos Perry, Charles W. Parsons.
Committee on the Publications of the Society,				John R. Bartlett, J. Lewis Diman, Edwin M. Stone.
Committee on Grounds and Buildings,				Isaac H. Southwick, Joseph R. Brown, Albert Dailey.
Audit Committee,	-	-	-	Henry T. Beckwith, Walter Blodget.

It is

Voted, That a tax of three dollars be assessed on each resident member of the Society, to defray the current expenses the ensuing year.

On recommendation of the Committee on Nominations, the following persons are elected resident members on the usual terms :

Walter Paine, Dr. William F. Hutchinson, Edwin A. Smith, Newton Dexter, Frank M. Burroughs, Dr. Ossian Sumner, Henry W. Gardner, James Eddy, Henry T. Grant, Frederic M. Sacket, Albert Holbrook, William Aplin, Charles Aplin, all of Providence; John G. Clarke, of South Kingstown.

It is

Voted, That the committee appointed last July to devise some plan for the classification and cataloguing of the objects of the Society, be requested to report at the next meeting.

The Secretary announces, in behalf of the Cabinet Keeper, several donations to the Society.

Mr. J. Erastus Lester reads a very interesting description that was given about two centuries ago, of the Boston and Providence of that early period.

It is

Voted, To adjourn to the call of the Secretary.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y*.

ADJOURNED ANNUAL MEETING.

PROVIDENCE, FEBRUARY 16, 1875.

The adjourned annual meeting is called to order at 7½ o'clock, P. M., by the President.

The record of the last meeting is read and approved.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Nomination of New Members, the following named gentlemen are elected resident members :

Edward P. Knowles, Nelson W. Aldrich, Thomas J. Hill, John A. Brown, Augustus S. Miller, Alexander Manchester.

The Librarian and Cabinet Keeper, Rev. E. M. Stone, who is detained at his home by indisposition, submits his annual report through the hands of the Secretary, and copious extracts are read.

It is

Resolved, That the Committee on Publications be authorized and instructed to print five hundred copies of the records of the Proceedings of the Society the last year, embracing the reports of the Librarian and Cabinet Keeper of the Northern Department, an abstract of the Treasurer's report, and a Necrology of the members of the Society, who have died during the year, and present their bill to the Treasurer for settlement.

At 8 o'clock, Dr. Henry E. Turner, of Newport, is introduced, and reads a carefully prepared paper, showing the importance of collecting, classifying and arranging all the genealogical material to be found in all the town clerks' offices, church records, and grave yard inscriptions of the State. His paper also embraced a notice of the toryism of Newport, during the Revolutionary War.

The purpose of the paper was stated, "to make to appear the very intimate connection between the families in different parts of Rhode Island, and more especially between those of Newport and every other part of the State, and to suggest such action on the part of this Society as shall with the countenance and aid of the State government, preserve all the procurable records in the State, both public and private, and put them in such form as shall be available to those who have or shall become interested in the elucidation of family histories, a taste for which is very rapidly advancing, and in which all the surrounding states are making great progress, and in which (unless some strong effort is soon

made) we shall be left very far in the lurch." After speaking of the wealth and commercial importance of Newport before the revolution had given a death blow to her fortunes, and robbed her of her Metropolitan position, and showing that very many of the towns in the State were settled and to a great extent populated by people from that city, the writer says:

"And here allow me to diverge for a few moments, to say a few words in contravention of the prevalent idea that Newport, at the beginning of the Revolution, was a nest of tories; in relation to the mass of its inhabitants the truth is the exact contrary; as early as 1765 a riot occurred in which a boat belonging to His Brittannic Majesty's armed vessel, the 'Maidstone,' was burned as an expression of popular feeling on the part of the community of Newport against the arbitrary impressment of seamen from among the citizens, by Captain Charles Antrobus, of said vessel, in consequence of which Captain Antrobus seized and carried on board his vessel various persons; the manly and dignified manner in which Governor Ward intervened for them, inducing the gallant captain to release his prisoners, nor does it appear that the royal government ever procured any redress or inflicted any punishment. This transaction does not argue that public sentiment was influenced at that time by superlative loyalty. It appears by a letter of Governor Ward to Captain Antrobus, that the Captain had complained to the Governor that a certain Mr. Champlin had been prevented, or intimidated by the mob, from furnishing his vessel with supplies.

"In August, 1765, John Robinson, Collector of Customs, John Nicoll, Comptroller, and Nicholas Lechmere, Searcher, took refuge on board His Majesty's sloop 'Cygnet,' from apprehensions of personal danger from a Newport mob which threatened them with violence unless a sloop loaded with molasses, which had been seized and placed under charge of the 'Cygnet,' was delivered up.

"In August, 1765, Augustus Johnson, appointed by the King distributor of stamps, with Martin Howard and Dr. Thomas Moffat, who were obnoxious on account of their interest in the projected enforcement of that odious measure, the 'Stamp Act,' were visited by a mob, their household goods thrown out of their houses, their papers scattered, and they themselves having been with great difficulty rescued by their friends, were compelled to find refuge on board of the Cygnet. Mr. Johnson, in a letter to Mr. Nicoll, says: 'I was obliged for the security of my life and property to sign a paper purporting that I would not execute said office without the consent of the inhabitants of the Colony.' For all these outrages, as appears by the complaint of the King's officers, no redress could be had in the courts of the Colony, by reason of the adverse public sentiment."

It further appears, by correspondence of Governor Ward with the Earl of Shelburn, that the king's government remembered with some acrimony the undutiful conduct of the Newport rioters and the Rhode

Island Courts, and refused to pay a bill of the Colony for expenses incurred in the French war, in 1766, (as they repeatedly did), until indemnity was assured to the sufferers by the Newport riots, and no settlement was ever had.

In Vol. VI, Col. Rec., page 593, Mr. Bartlett says: "The first open and forcible resistance in the colonies against the acts of the British government, which led to their final separation from the mother country, took place at this time."

The transaction to which this refers occurred on Wednesday, July 19, 1759. The sloop Liberty, in one instance called a sloop-of-war, but really in the revenue service, commanded by Captain William Reid, came into Newport having in charge a sloop and brig belonging to Connecticut, which had been seized on pretext of having contraband goods on board, or other infraction of the revenue laws. On Friday, two days after, on some dispute between Captain Packwood, of the captured sloop, and the officers of the Liberty, Captain Packwood was fired on as he was leaving his vessel; Captain Reid being on shore, was compelled to order all his men on shore except the mate. In the meantime the populace took possession of the Liberty, cut her cables, brought her in and run her ashore at the Point, cut away her mast, threw everything overboard, scuttled and sunk her; then, taking her two boats, marched in procession through the principal streets, and burned them on the common at the head of Broad street.

All honor to the gallant spirits who illustrated the patriotic sentiment of Providence on the 9th of June, 1772, in the destruction of the Gaspee; and of Boston, in November, 1773, at the celebrated "Tea Party;" but let it be remembered that all these acts of defiance against the royal authority transpired from three to eight years before either of those events; and that, too, in a community which has been rather carelessly than with intentional injustice, stigmatized as a "Hot-bed of Toryism."

The writer then refers to the purpose of the paper, and says: "A very important consideration is, that a vast amount of information which might now be obtained is rapidly being obliterated; the private places of sepulture, which are the sources of much important information not elsewhere to be obtained, are giving place to public cemeteries, and are daily and hourly disappearing under the vandal hand of so called improvement, or by the wasteful process of neglect or decay. It is mournful to witness the evidences of loss of material of this kind in the large burial places of Newport, and the still more mortifying dilapidation of those scattered all over the island; on farms they are so entirely disregarded by new occupants that in a generation or two they will have become extinct. Thousands of Bibles, containing records of immense value, are probably scattered over the country, from the Rio Grande to the Aroostook, which would be of inestimable value to us, could they be recovered; other thousands have experienced the fate of all perishable things, and these processes must continue. We cannot retrieve the

ground lost, but we may do a vast deal of good by taking such measures as will lead to a transcription of every tombstone now to be found, and of every bible record which can yet be reached, and making them a matter of public record, as well as other matters, to which I shall direct your attention. The value of old documents cannot be fully appreciated by any except those who have made archaeological studies a specialty, and they whose taste lies in that direction are alone qualified to exercise the diligence and discrimination necessary in finding and preserving those of value, if, indeed, any can be said to be without it. Every student of history, and especially genealogical history, knows from what improbable sources links of vital importance are constantly derived, and by what trivial accidents the most essential papers are frequently rescued from destruction. It is, therefore, imperative on us, not only as a matter of taste and judgment, but of conscience, to lose no time and to forego no opportunity in impressing these considerations on the minds of others, and prosecuting to the extent of our abilities those measures which may avail in redeeming the most minute facts from oblivion."

The writer then alludes to his own genealogical researches, and gives some interesting facts showing the wonderfully intimate connection of one part of the State with all the others, and the importance of collecting and preserving these records while they are yet available. His plan for thus preserving them is to apply to the Legislature for the enactment of a law directing each town or city to take measures to embody all the records of births, marriages and deaths which can be obtained within their precincts, classify them according to their sources, reduce them to alphabetical order, and publish them in one or more volumes, at the expense of said town or city, and supply the Town Clerk of each other town or city with one or more copies, and also the Secretary of State and public libraries. There would, of course, be a necessity for supplementary volumes at intervals. Or this result might be reached by the Legislature adopting a plan for the publication of one or more volumes supplementary to the Colonial Records, embodying the same material, annually, which plan would involve more time and probably more expense, and might, under certain circumstances, fall into neglect and fail of completion.

At the conclusion of the reading, on motion of Mr. Gam-mell, it is

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Dr. Turner for his interesting and instructive paper, and that a copy be requested for the archives of the Society.

After various remarks on the subjects of the paper and the best method of compassing the object in view, it is

Voted, That Dr. Henry E. Turner, of Newport, Rev. Carlton A. Staples and Mr. J. Erastus Lester, of Providence, be a committee to ask the General Assembly to appoint a committee to devise means of collecting and publishing all the genealogical material of the State in accordance with the suggestions made in the paper of this evening.

Adjourned two weeks to hear a paper read by Hon. Thomas C. Amory, of Boston.

AMOS PERRY, *Sec'y*.



TREASURER'S REPORTS.

*Dr. Richmond P. Everett, Treasurer, in account with the Rhode Island
Historical Society.*

1874.						
Jan'y 20.	To cash on hand,	-	-	-	-	\$708 26
1875.						
Jan'y 18.	To taxes from ninety-five members, at \$3,	-				285 00
	“ admissions, twenty-nine members, at \$5,	-				145 00
	“ subscriptions from members for removing stair case, as follows:—					
	W. G. Williams,	-	-	-		\$10 00
	Z. Allen,	-	-	-		10 00
	H. T. Beckwith,	-	-	-		10 00
	H. J. Steere,	-	-	-		10 00
	B. G. Pabodie,	-	-	-		5 00
	I. H. Southwick,	-	-	-		5 00
	R. H. Ives,	-	-	-		5 00
	John Oldfield,	-	-	-		5 00
	J. R. Brown,	-	-	-		5 00
	P. W. Gardiner,	-	-	-		5 00
	S. G. Arnold,	-	-	-		5 00
	Stephen Randall,	-	-	-		5 00
	James Y. Smith,	-	-	-		5 00
	H. Anthony,	-	-	-		2 00
	W. O. Brown,	-	-	-		2 00
	W. D. Hilton,	-	-	-		2 00
	Charles Sabin,	-	-	-		2 00
	R. B. Chambers,	-	-	-		2 00
	Interest on the same,	-	-	-		1 00
						96 90
	To cash for sale of books,	-	-	-		3 00
	“ interest from City Savings Bank for July and January,	-	-	-		60 59
						\$1,297 85

Cr. Richmond P. Everett, Treasurer, in account with the Rhode Island Historical Society.

1875.			
Jan'y 18.	For repairs on building and ground,	- -	\$51 64
	“ removing stair case, - - -	- -	147 96
	“ printing and advertising meetings, - -	- -	91 94
	“ stamps and expresses, - - -	- -	45 40
	“ fuel and gas, - - - -	- -	22 21
	“ balance of account, cash on hand, - -	- -	938 70
There is on deposit in the City Savings Bank, this amount, Jan. 18, 1875, \$938 70			
			\$1,297 85

RICHMOND P. EVERETT, *Treasurer.*

PROVIDENCE, January 18, 1875.

The undersigned have examined this account with the vouchers and find the same correct; the balance to new account being \$938.70.

HENRY T. BECKWITH, } *Auditors.*
WALTER BLODGET, }

PROVIDENCE, 18th January, 1875.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

Dr. Richmond P. Everett, Treasurer, in account with the Rhode Island Historical Society.

1874.			
Jan'y 20.	To cash on hand, - - - -	- -	\$440 83
26.	“ Benjamin G. Pabodie, for life membership, -	- -	50 00
July 1.	“ interest from Providence Institution for Savings, - - - -	- -	16 27
Jan'y 1.	“ interest from Providence Institution for Savings, - - - -	- -	17 74
			\$524 84

Cr. Richmond P. Everett, Treasurer, in account with the Rhode Island Historical Society.

1875.

Jan'y 19.	By cash on hand, deposited in Providence Institution for Savings,	-	-	-	\$524 84
	There is on deposit in Providence Institution for Savings,	-	-	\$524 84	
					\$524 84

RICHMOND P. EVERETT, *Treasurer.*

PROVIDENCE, January 19, 1875.

The undersigned have examined this account and find it correct; balance to new account, \$524.84.

HENRY T. BECKWITH, } *Auditors.*
WALTER BLODGET, }

PROVIDENCE, 18th January, 1875.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY FUND.

Dr. Richmond P. Everett, Treasurer, in account with the Rhode Island Historical Society.

1874.

Jan'y 20.	To cash on hand,	-	-	-	\$77 36
July 15.	" interest from Mechanics Savings Bank,	-	-	2 27	
					\$79 63

Cr. Richmond P. Everett, Treasurer, in account with the Rhode Island Historical Society.

1874.

April 4.	G. A. Sweet, for picture frames,	-	-	-	\$11 50
July 2.	Books for library,	-	-	-	22 00
August 1.	H. M. Coombs & Co., for binding,	-	-	32 20	

1875.

Jan'y 19.	Balance of account, cash on hand,	-	-	13 93	
	There is on deposit in the Mechanics Savings Bank,	-	-	\$9 00	
	Cash on hand with Treasurer,	-	-	4 93	
				\$13 93	
					\$79 63

RICHMOND P. EVERETT, *Treasurer.*

PROVIDENCE, January 19, 1875.

The undersigned have examined this account and find it correct; balance to new account, \$13.93

HENRY T. BECKWITH, } *Auditors.*
WALTER BLODGET, }

PROVIDENCE, 18th January, 1875.

REPORT OF THE NORTHERN DEPARTMENT
OF THE
RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
1874.

The Librarian and Cabinet Keeper for the Northern Department respectfully reports that contributions, including purchases, have been received from the following sources:

Massachusetts Historical Society,	Boston Public Library,
New England Historical and Genealogical Society,	Lawrence Academy,
Essex Institute,	Wilmington Institute.
New Jersey Historical Society,	Richmond P. Everett, Providence,
Delaware Historical Society,	Henry E. Whipple, "
American Antiquarian Society,	William G. Williams, "
American Philosophical Society,	Royal C. Taft, "
Grand Encampment, I. O. O. F.,	William V. Daboll, "
Mass. Society Cincinnati,	J. Albert Monroe, "
New York N. England Society,	Franklin H. Richmond, "
Wisconsin Historical Society,	Amos Perry, "
Iowa Historical Society,	Henry T. Beckwith, "
Minnesota Historical Society,	Edwin M. Stone, "
Maryland Historical Society,	Edwin M. Snow, "
Minnesota Academy Natural Sciences,	Thomas A. Doyle, "
Natick, (Mass.,) Historical Society,	John A. Howland, "
Massachusetts Board of Health,	Albert V. Jencks, "
Smithsonian Institute,	Edwin Baker, "
	Abby Mauran, "
	Edward C. Mauran, "

Joseph J. Cooke, Providence,	John L. Hayes, Boston,
Joshua M. Addeman, “	Albert H. Hoyt, “
Merrick Lyon, “	James Campbell, “
John D. Austin, “	Alfred T. Turner, “
B. G. Pabodie, “	William W. Greenough, Boston,
Miss Caroline M. Read, Prov.,	Alexander Williams, “
Mrs. J. S. Peckham, Providence,	J. C. Hoadly, Hartford, Ct ,
Mrs. Adeline Mauran, “	O. N. Worden, New Milford Pa.,
Amasa M. Eaton, “	Mrs. Augusta A. Rhodes, Indian-
E. A. Capen, “	apolis, Ia.
A. G. Hurd, “	Joseph Story Fay, Woods Hole,
Miss Mary W. Armington, “	Mass.,
John R. Bartlett, “	Bangs, Merwin & Co., New York,
William F. Channing, “	Henry T. Drowne, “
Reuben A. Guild, “	William J. Hoppin, “
Horatio G. Nightingale, “	Thomas H. Wynne, Richmond, Va.
Akerman & Co., “	George N. Preble, U. S. N., Phila-
Mrs. Lucy D. Bucklin, “	delphia,
H. M. Coombs, “	Frederick Muller, Amsterdam,
Samuel H. Webb, “	Holland,
Stephen Randall, “	Isaac Smucker, Newark, O.
John P. Walker, “	Mrs. Sarah S. Stafford, Trenton,
Stephen R. Weeden, “	N. J.
Mrs. Henry Jackson, “	A. A. Livermore, Meadville, Pa.,
David Benedict, Pawtucket,	Elbridge S. Goss, Melrose, Mass ,
Casey B. Tyler, Warwick,	T. S. Drowne, D. D., Brooklyn,
John Holden, “	N. Y.,
Thomas W. Bicknell, Barrington,	Evangelical Alliance, New York,
R. C. Bodfish, East Greenwich,	P. Cudmore, St. Paul's, Minn.,
R. I. State Board of Charities,	John W. Hoyt, Madison, Wis.,
R. I. State Auditor,	Franklin B. Dexter, New Haven,
State of Rhode Island,	Conn.,
City of Providence,	William W. Morris, Louisville,
Samuel A. Green, M. D., Boston,	Kentucky,
E. H. Derby, Boston,	O. P. Hubbard, New York,
Samuel G. Drake, Boston,	Wendell P. Garrison, Orange, N. Y.

The contributions for the year number 2,706, being 1,101 more than in 1873. Of these 219 are bound volumes of books, 58 volumes unbound

books, 126 bound volumes of newspapers, and 2,234 pamphlets. The residue comprise manuscripts, engravings, broadsides, maps, coins, relics, etc. Eighteen volumes of history and biography have been purchased and paid for from the semi-centennial fund. Quite a number of books and files of newspapers have been bound, the expense being defrayed from the same fund. Exclusive of the volumes purchased, the contributions have been partly voluntary, and partly the result of personal solicitation by the Librarian. Twenty-two resident members have remembered us with acceptable donations during the past year—an example which it is hoped will become universal.

From Mr. Henry T. Beckwith have been received seventy six bound volumes of books, including ten quarto volumes of the Plymouth Colony Records, and six quarto volumes of the Records of the Massachusetts Colony. To these he has added seventy-eight bound volumes of newspapers, which will be found of great value to students of the history of the times they cover. Mr. William G. Williams has presented to the library thirty-four bound volumes of books, fifty pamphlets, and three framed engravings. From Mr. Joseph J. Cooke have come four hundred periodicals and miscellaneous pamphlets. Twenty-three volumes of the Providence Directory received from Dr. George L. Collins, has enabled the Librarian to nearly perfect the series of that publication from 1824, in which year the first number was issued from the press of Brown and Danforth, in this city. The donations of other members, though fewer in number, have enhanced the usefulness of our collections.

To Messrs. Akerman & Co. we are indebted for six hundred and thirty-six pamphlets, mostly relating to the schools, religious associations, and the financial affairs of the cities and towns of Rhode Island. A donation of a similar character has been made by Mr. H. M. Coombs. From Mr. Franklin H. Richmond has been received one hundred and seventy-four miscellaneous pamphlets, and from Dr. Reuben A. Guild, Librarian of Brown University, a fine copy of his history of that Institution,—a work of great value, and now out of print. To the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati we are under obligations for an elegantly illustrated copy of the history of that body, and to Hon. Alexander Williams for a volume comprising a list of members of the same. Both works were prepared by Francis S. Drake, Esq., of Boston, and bear evidence of the thoroughness which has marked all his publications. Apart from the intrinsic value of these volumes as repositories of names and doings of men conspicuous in the War of the Revolution, the fact that the edition

of each was limited and that no copies are in the market for sale, render them important acquisitions.

Colonel Almon D. Hodges, formerly of this city, and for many years past a resident of Boston, has presented to the Society a volume of Records of the Second Regiment of Rhode Island Militia, from 1825 to 1837. Of this regiment he was successively Adjutant and Colonel. An earlier volume of records, extending back to 1793, is missing. As a memorial of the regiment for a period of thirty-two years, and giving completeness to its history, it is hoped it may yet be recovered. Fortunately the names of the Colonels and Adjutants from 1793 to 1837 have been preserved, and with the record of the volume under consideration, makes the list complete.*

Mr. Frederick Muller, of Amsterdam, Holland, continues to be one of the Society's most attentive foreign correspondents. Besides earlier valuable contributions there have been received from him the present year a Bibliographical and Historical Essay on Dutch Books, and pamphlets relating to New England, 4to, by G. M. Asher, LL. D.; *Mémoire Bibliographique sur les Journaux Navigateurs Néerlandais*, etc., 4to, 1867; a catalogue of books, maps and engraved plates on America, etc., 4to, 1872; catalogue of autographs of eminent persons; catalogue of Dutch portraits. Mr. Muller's industry in the department to which he is

*RECORD of the Past Commanders of the Second Regiment Rhode Island Militia, commencing in 1793. (there being no record previous to that date,) with the time they held command. Also a list of their Adjutants.

COLONELS.	TIME.	ADJUTANTS.
Philip Martin.....	..1793 and 1799..	Jeremiah Whiting.
Stephen Abbott.....	..1797 " 1801..	George Jenkins.
Jeremiah Whiting.....	..1801 " 1803..	Thos. Sessions & Thos. S. Webb.
Thomas Sessions.....	..1804 " 1807..	Moses Richardson.
Thomas S. Webb.....	..1807 " 1809..	Josiah Keene.
Samuel Pearson.....	..1809 " 1810..	Henry Bowen.
Saulford Branch.....	..1810 " 1811..	Samuel Brown.
John S. Eddy.....	..1811 " 1813..	Benjamin D. Jones.
Gardner Daggett.....	..1813 " 1815..	Joseph Sweet.
Caleb Brown.....	..1815 " 1816..	Joseph Sweet.
Abraham S. Gladding.....	..1816 " 1818..	Luther Pearson & N. S. Draper.
Henry G. Mumford.....	..1818 " 1820..	Charles F. Tillinghast.
Leonard Blodgett.....	..1820 " 1822..	Daniel T. Goodhue.
Job Angell.....	..1822 " 1824..	Joshua H. Rathbone.
Earl Carpenter.....	..1824 " 1825..	Joshua H. Rathbone.
John Church.....	..1825 " 1828..	Almon D. Hodges & Ed. Carfile.
Almon D. Hodges.....	..1828 " 1830..	Jas. G. Anthony & Geo. W. Hallett.
(No. Col.)		
Capt. Comd'g Samuel Jacobs.....	..1830 " 1831..	Americus V. Potter.
Almon D. Hodges.....	..1831 " ..	James N. Olney.
" ".....	..1832 " ..	" " " "
Thomas J. Branch.....	..1835 " ..	James S. Lincoln.
" ".....	..1836 " ..	" " " "
" ".....	..1837 " ..	" " " "

devoted is in the highest degree creditable, and that he should have prepared and published one of the most extensive catalogues of books relating to America anywhere to be found, is a fact that will be hailed with satisfaction both by students of American history, and by those forming libraries of this class of works.

Among the accessions to the Cabinet are seven geological specimens from the Hoosac Tunnel, presented by Mr. John P. Walker; a set of silver and copper coins, used by the late Thomas A. Tefft, a native of Rhode Island, while in Europe, working out the problem of a universal currency, the gift of Mrs. Lucy D. Bucklin; a small trunk brought from England by Joshua Winsor in 1638, two years after Roger Williams left his disturbed home in Seekonk and found rest on the western slope of Prospect Hill, in full view of the meadows of the Moshassuck and the Woonasquatucket, presented by Mrs. Abby Mauran; a pair of Worsted Combers, used by the wife of Joseph Williams, son of Roger, presented by Mr. William V. Daboll; mementoes from the graves of President Jackson and Polk, and wood from the Consumptive House in the Mammoth Cave, Kentucky, presented by Mr. Richmond P. Everett; specimens of table linen and toweling, manufactured by the slaves of Abraham Houghtaling, of Kingston, N. Y., in 1790, the contribution of Mrs. Augusta A. Rhodes, of Indianapolis, Ind.; a hair-necklace made for and worn by a Sandwich Island Princess, presented by Mrs. Law, through Miss Mary W. Armington; a bead belt said to have belonged to King Philip, of Pokanoket, presented by Miss Caroline M. Read; a sculptured block of stone, brought from Mexico by Hon. John R. Bartlett, and presented by him; an eagle's head which once surmounted the hilt of one of Washington's swords, presented by Mr. Charles H. Merri-
man.

The necklace above mentioned, resembling in form an article of modern head-gear, bearing the name of "rat," was manufactured from hair contributed as a token of respect by each female native of one of the islands. It was presented to Mrs. Law by its Royal owner, and was brought by her some years ago to Providence.

Accompanying the King Philip belt is the following statement: "This bead-belt was once the property, according to a clearly defined family tradition, of Philip, of Pokanoket. It was given to Miss Read by her grandmother, the late Mrs. Molly Bowers, who was born in Seekonk, August 15th, 1740. Mrs. Bowers removed to Pawtucket when that village contained only five houses, and died in George street, in Providence,

in October, 1840, in her 101st year. Her husband, Asa Bowers, of Connecticut, was a revolutionary soldier, and died during the war."

That Philip, during his life time, was the possessor of several of these ornamental belts is unquestionably true. After the capture of the "great captain" Annawon, that warrior presented to Captain Church two belts, which he said had belonged to Philip. One was "curiously wrought with wampom, being nine inches broad, wrought with black and white wampom, in various figures, and flowers and pictures of many birds and beasts. This, when hanged upon Captain Church's shoulders, reached his ancles." The other was "wrought after the former manner, which Philip was wont to put upon his head. It had two flags on the back part, which hung down on his back, and another small belt with a star upon the end of it, which he used to hang on his breast, and they were all edged with red hair, which Annawon said they got in the Mohog's [Mohawk's] country."* The editor of "The History of Philip's War," says that the first mentioned belt, "and some other of Philip's ornaments are now [1829] owned in a family at Swansey, as I was informed by an inhabitant of the place." Assuming the tradition concerning the belt preserved in the family of Mrs. Bowers to be correct, it requires no severe stretch of imagination to believe that the "small belt with a star upon the end of it," worn by Philip upon his breast, resembled the one presented to our Society by Miss Read, if indeed, it be not the veritable article despoiled of its aster ornament. However this may be, the belt under consideration belongs to an early period in the history of Plymouth Colony and of Providence Plantations, and naturally recalls the not very favorable descriptions historians have given of one who believed that the salvation of his people was the stake for which he was contending.

It should be borne in mind that the most we have hitherto known of Philip and of his characteristics, comes to us from the pens of prejudiced writers. It was the misfortune of the aborigines of this country, in its early settlement, (as it has been since,) that they were too generally treated by adventurers and settlers as having no rights which white men were bound to respect.

"It must be admitted," says an eminent modern historian, who evidently holds Philip in low estimate, "that the sense of obligations imposed by a common humanity was not in all respects so operative in those times as it is now. Before their departure from their native coun-

* Church's History of Philip's War, pp. 141, 142. Ed. of 1829.

try, the emigrants had known no men of other blood than their own. Controlled by a habit of mind which an insular position and other circumstances have formed in Englishmen, they were capable of only a very imperfect sympathy even with men of Italy or France. How much more feeble would the tie of fraternity be felt to be between themselves and a race which, even as to outward aspect, would seem to them to have little of humanity beyond the likeness of a human shape, and which, as to reason, conscience, and affections, corresponded to no idea of humanity to which they had been used." . . . "They brought from England and transmitted to the children born to them in America, the Puritan habits of thought and of expression which reproduces and perpetuates thought." . . . "To them the Amorite and the Moabite reappeared in the Wampanoag and the Nipmuck; and whenever harsh measures of repression had been dictated by better reasons, the approval of a severe sentence was apt to be made more cordial in many minds by reflections on its analogy with what was recorded in Scripture respecting the doom of ancient enemies of God." . . . "It cannot be denied that even the justice and kindness of the settlers in New England towards the natives had an alloy of contempt." . . . "It were to be wished that the Colonists had borne their superiority with more meekness."*

Hutchinson says: "There have been many instances of abuses offered to particular persons among the Indians, by evil minded Englishmen, and the inhabitants of some parts of the province which have suffered most by Indian cruelties, may have been under too strong prejudices, and, by this means, offenders when brought upon trial, may have been acquitted by too favorable juries. We are too apt to consider the Indians as a race of beings by nature inferior to us, and born for servitude. Philip was a man of high spirit, and could not bear to see the English of New Plymouth extending their settlements over the dominions of his ancestors; and although his father had, at one time or other, conveyed to them all that they were possessed of, yet he had sense enough to distinguish a free voluntary covenant from one made under a sort of duress, and he could never rest until he brought on the war which ended in his destruction."†

Philip undoubtedly felt all this, and it is not surprising that he should resent it. That he had cause for complaint there can be no doubt. The numerous wrongs he suffered at the hands of the whites as related by

* Palfrey's Hist., N. E., iii., pp. 218, 219.

† Hist. Mass. ii. 233.

him to his friend, John Borden,* were every way calculated to inflame his mind, and to move him to engage in a war of extermination—a terrible, yet a natural course for a savage chief to adopt for the preservation of his people and a domain stretching from the eastern shore of the Narragansett Bay to Cape Cod.†

There is a tone of sadness in the recital which appeals with no little force to the sympathy of the reader, while the calm and positive statements suggest the possibility of Philip being less in the wrong than has been generally supposed. His words are these:

“The English who came first to this country were but an handful of people, forlorn, poor, and distressed. My father was then Sachem. He relieved their distresses in the most kind and hospitable manner. He gave them land to build and plant upon. He did all in his power to serve them. Others of their own countrymen came and joined them. Their numbers rapidly increased. My father’s counsellors became uneasy and alarmed, lest, as they were possessed of fire-arms, which was not the case with the Indians, they should finally undertake to give law to the Indians, and take from them their country. They therefore advised him to destroy them before they should become too strong and it should be too late. My father was also the father of the English. He represented to his counsellors and warriors that the English knew many sciences which the Indians did not; that they improved and cultivated the earth, and raised cattle and fruits, and that there was sufficient room in the country for both the Indians and the English. His advice prevailed. It was concluded to give victuals to the English. They flourished and increased. Experience taught that the advice of my father’s counsellors was right. By various means they got possessed of a great part of his territory. But he still remained their friend till he died. My elder brother became

* Foster Papers, R. I. Hist. Soc.

† “Repeated sales of land had narrowed their domains, and the English had artfully crowded them into the tongues of land, as ‘most suitable and convenient for them.’ There they could be more easily watched, for the frontiers of the narrow peninsulas were inconsiderable. Thus the two chief seats of the Pokonokets were the necks of land which we now call Bristol and Tiverton. As population pressed upon other savages, the west was open; but as the English villages drew nearer and nearer to them, their hunting-grounds were put under culture; and as the ever-urgent importunity of the English was quieted but for a season by partial concessions from the unwary Indians, their natural parks were turned into pastures; their best fields for planting corn were gradually alienated; their fisheries were impaired by more skillful methods; and as wave after wave succeeded, they found themselves deprived of their broad acres, and by their own legal contracts, driven, as it were, into the sea.”—*Bancroft, ii. p. 39.*

Sachem. They pretended to suspect him of evil designs against them. He was seized and confined, and thereby thrown into sickness and died. Soon after I became Sachem they disarmed all my people. They tried my people by their own laws, and assessed damages against them which they could not pay. Their land was taken. At length a division was agreed upon between the English and my people; I, myself, was to be responsible. Sometimes the cattle of the English would come into the cornfields of my people, for they did not make fences like the English. I must then be seized and confined till I sold another tract of my country for satisfaction of all damages and costs. Thus tract after tract is gone. But a small part of the dominion of my ancestors remains. I am determined not to live till I have no country."

Notwithstanding all that has been said of the vindictiveness of Philip, there is reason for believing that he was more pacific in his disposition than contemporaneous and later writers have given him credit for. Indeed, it would be strange if the gentle spirit and counsel of his father had failed to modify and put under some restraint a strong and positive nature. Callender, who wrote sixty four years after the death of the Wampanoag chief, mentions as a tradition of the war of 1675, that Philip entered into it reluctantly, and that "he was forced on by the fury of his young men, sore against his own judgment and inclination," and adds, that when he "could no longer resist the importunity of his warriors, he, like a wise man, took the most proper measures to make their enterprise effectual." The annotator of Callender* also says: "there is a constant tradition among the posterity of the people who lived next to him [Philip] and were familiarly conversant with him, as also with the Indians who survived the war, that both Philip and his chief old men were utterly averse to the war."† And does not this pacific disposition find confirmation in the offer he made to the Court in Plymouth, August 6, 1660, of his brother as an hostage, and at the same time promising not only to fulfill the engagement of amity contracted by his father, Massasoit, and his brother, Alexander, but also to "endeavor in all things to carry peaceably and inoffensively towards the English?" Certainly this and subsequent agreements with Plymouth, strengthen the probability of the above tradition. That Philip possessed a lofty mind is shown in the closing sentence of the list of grievances before referred to: "I am determined not to live until I have no country"—an utterance worthy

* Prof Romeo Elton.

† R. I. Hist. Soc. Coll., vol. iv., pp. 126, 128.

of Leonidas;—and that he was susceptible of kindly sentiments and warm friendships, there are, fortunately for his fame, numerous proofs. The late General Guy M. Fessenden, a close and careful student of aboriginal history, in his history of Warren, relates the following :

“From his contiguity of residence, Philip was intimate with the first settlers of Warren, (then Swansey). In 1669 he sold to Hugh Cole and others, five hundred acres of land in Swansey. This tract was on the west side of Cole’s river, which took its name from Hugh Cole, who resided thereon, previous to 1675. At the breaking out of the Indian War, two of Hugh Cole’s sons were made prisoners by the Indians, and taken to Philip’s headquarters at Mount Hope. Philip, from his friendship for their father, sent them back with a message that he did not wish to injure him, but as his younger warriors might disobey his orders, advised him to repair to Rhode Island for safety. Mr. Cole immediately made ready and started with all his family. They had proceeded but a short distance when he beheld his house in flames.” He undoubtedly embarked in a boat down Mount Hope Bay. Fessenden further adds: “Philip also performed a similar act of kindness in protecting the family of Mr. James Brown, one of the constituent members of the Swansey church.”

In Colonel Church’s History this incident of Hugh Cole is also recorded, and as a tradition preserved in the family is there entitled, “A proof of King Philip’s humanity.” It says that Cole settled at Tnisset, a neck of land on the east side of the Keekannuit river. “He in time became acquainted with Philip, and always lived in habits of friendship with him. In June, 1675, Philip informed him that his young men were eager to go to war against the English; but when he could no longer restrain them he would let him know. Accordingly on an evening previous to the fatal 24th, canoes arrived from Mount Hope with advice from Philip that Mr. Cole and his family must go over to Rhode Island, as his people would begin the war. They embarked, and the next morning their dwellings were burned.”*

Clark, in his “History of Norton,” which was originally a part of Taunton, says:

“It is well known that Taunton suffered less than almost any town from the Indians during Philip’s war. Near Philip’s summer residence, in what is now Raynham, then Taunton, the Leonard family had established their iron works. From them Philip had received many favors, and been on terms of great intimacy; and this fact is supposed by Mr. Baylies† to have been the reason why Taunton was so little molested. Mr. Baylies says:

* Philip’s War, pp. 339, 340.

† Baylies’ “History of Plymouth Colony.”

“In his (Philip’s) excursions he had made himself acquainted with the Leonards. They repaired his guns, and supplied him with iron and with such tools as are most prized by savages; and uniformly treated him with kindness and attention. He had become more attached to this family than to any of the English; and he gave his Indians, at the commencement of the war, the strictest orders that they should never injure a Leonard. As he knew, that, in a general attack on the town, this favorite family might be exposed to dangers equal to those of the other inhabitants, it becomes, therefore, extremely probable that his attachment to the Leonards prevented the destruction of Taunton.’”

Clark, after quoting Philip’s kindness to Cole and family, as related by Church, comments as follows:

“In these instances we have exemplified one of the noblest traits of character belonging to civilized life; which clearly indicates that Philip was not so terrible a monster as many supposed he was. In fact, we do not believe he was; but we regard him as one of the most patriotic and truly noble men that ever lived in any country. Had he been an Englishman, and manifested the same firm resolve and unfaltering devotion to the interests of his country, he would have been raised to the rank of a demigod.”*

In the attack by the Indians on Lancaster, Mass., February 10th, 1676, the wife of Rev. Joseph Rowlandson was taken prisoner and sold to Quinnapin, a Narragansett chief, the third husband of Weetamoe, Queen of Pocasset, whose slave she became. Weetamoe’s first husband was Alexander, Philip’s brother. During a captivity of eleven weeks and five days, Philip saw Mrs. Rowlandson several times and manifested a friendly interest in her. At his request she made a shirt for his boy, for which he gave her a shilling. Afterwards she made him a cap, for which she was invited to dinner. She was ransomed for £20, and joined her husband in Boston. The glad news of her release was announced to her in pleasant words by Philip. The Indians held a great dance after the close of the negotiations. “Soon after the dance, (says Abbott,) King Philip, who was present with his warriors, but who appears to have taken no part in the carousals, sent for Mrs. Rowlandson, and said to her with a smiling face, ‘would you like to hear some good news? I have a pleasant word for you. You are to go home to morrow.’”†

Contrast this conduct of Philip with the treatment his wife (the gentle Wootonekanuske) and son received from the Colonists,—shipped out of

* Clark’s History of Norton, p. 55.

† History King Philip, p. 290.

the country and sold into slavery in one of the West India islands,—and the humanity seems in favor of the savage.

The “Swamp Fight” at *Mont Hurup*, June 20th, 1676, will ever be memorable as closing the career of one of the most famous of New England Sachems. When, by the treacherous hand of a recreant follower, he was slain, it remained for his white foes, certainly not less vindictive than himself, to deny his decapitated and quartered body a burial.* The four parts of the mangled remains were hung upon trees, a prey for carrion birds. One dissevered hand was given to Alderman, the Indian by whom he was killed, who exhibited it for money; the other was sent to Boston as a trophy, and for a score of years the head found a resting-place on a gibbet in Plymouth! History should be written impartially. Perhaps the coming historian with a better knowledge of facts, a deeper insight into Indian character and the influences which stirred up the hostility of Philip of Pokonoket, will speak a more kindly word for one who saw his power waning and who “could no longer brook the wrong and outrage heaped upon him by the whites.”†

The appointment of a committee to make arrangements for an excursion to Mount Hope on the 21st of June next, it being the ninety-ninth

* On being shot, Philip fell upon his face in the mud and water of the Swamp, from which he was removed to the upland by order of Captain Church, who says, [Hist. Philip's War, p. 123, Drake's ed., 1829,] that he looked like “a doleful, great naked, dirty beast.” In the use of this language he evidently referred to Philip's personal appearance as he lay upon the ground covered with mud, and not to obliquities of character, as some have applied the expression. Colonel Church was an able and successful warrior, and performed the duties of his position promptly and faithfully in obedience to the public authorities, and in conformity with the customs of the times. But he was humane to the Indians beyond anything shown by the authorities of Plymouth Colony, and strove to save Annawan, Tispaquin, and others, but without avail. In the Swamp Fight in South Kingstown, December, 1664, when an order was issued to fire the five or six hundred wigwams within the Indian fort, occupied by women, children, old men, and wounded warriors, Captain Church, then bleeding from his wounds, remonstrated against the “horrible order,” as inhumane and impolitic, for which he received violent abuse from two blood-thirsty officers—one a Captain and the other a Surgeon.—*Baylies' Plymouth*, ii., 97, 98. *Palfrey's N. E.*, iii, 179. *Potter's Narragansett*, 85-90.

† Arnold's R. I., i, 87. Since this report was written, William J. Miller, Esq., of Bristol, R. I., has read two learned papers before the Rhode Island Historical Society on Philip and the Wampanoags, which place the character of that Chief and his people in a truthful light. A third is promised, and it is to be hoped that they may be given to the public through the press.

anniversary of the Swamp Fight and the death of King Philip, suggests the propriety of then and there taking steps to honor the memory of the great chiefs who received the founder of Rhode Island with words of welcome, and who ever maintained a kindly feeling towards the early settlers.

It was a favorite idea with the late Judge Staples, and one in which he improved every suitable opportunity to enlist the sympathy of others, to commemorate the friendly deeds of these sons of the forest, by erecting to each a simple and inexpensive monument. He frequently conversed with me on the subject. His plan was to place upon a suitable foundation, a massive boulder, bearing upon its side, in deep-cut letters, the name of a Sachem. This was to be done for each. Such a plan he thought would best symbolically represent their natural endowments. The place selected for these rude monuments to Canonicus and Miantonomi, designs for which the Judge had prepared, was the open space at the south entrance of the North Burial Ground in this city—a location every way appropriate for the purpose.

The unexecuted plan is worthy still to be entertained. The thoughtful student of the history of Rhode Island cannot recall the services of the friendly Massasoit, "the sagacious and venerable Canonicus," the noble and high-toned Canonchet, and the brave and generous Miantonomi, without feeling that these are names which deserve to rank with many recorded high on the rolls of civilized nations. In what way can this Society better show respect for one of its principal founders than by taking up and finishing a work thus conceived? It is true the murdered Miantonomi has, by the generous exertions of a citizen of another State,* been honored with a monument erected on the spot where he "was brought to die." But this stands on foreign soil, and does not militate against honoring him in like manner, on the soil of which he was once a Sachem. A plan like this of Judge Staples is certainly within the province of our Society, and should it be consummated, would declare to future generations that the aboriginal friendship and faithfulness manifested to the founder of our State and its early settlers have not been forgotten by their posterity.

Of the eagle's head which once ornamented the hilt of one of Washington's swords, the donor, Mr. Merriman, gives the following account:

* William C. Gilman, Esq., of Norwich, Conn. The monument is a square block of granite, bearing the inscription, "MIANTONOMI, 1643."

"In the year 1861 I was at Washington, acting as Adjutant of the first regiment of troops that went from this State. Our advent there caused a good deal of excitement in social circles, owing to the social position of many of our rank and file, and the headquarters of the regiment was visited daily by some of the best people in Washington.

This relic was presented to the regiment by the Carroll family through Governor Sprague, who brought it to me, and left it in my keeping as Adjutant. I understood then, and still understand, that family to be descendants of the family of same name of revolutionary fame, and it seemed to me at the time the most natural thing in the world that they should possess such a relic, as their ancestors were the intimate friends or relatives of Washington, and the enthusiasm created by the first regiment naturally called forth such a tribute as this.

When the regiment came home and was disbanded, I went to Governor Sprague, reminded him of this relic, and asked him what I should do with it. He told me to keep it until it was called for, and it has been in my possession uncalled for until this time. I presumed he had forgotten it and feeling it ought not to remain in my hands longer I gave it to your Society, thinking you would value and preserve it."

A CURIOUS OLD MANUSCRIPT VOLUME.*

From the estate of the late Stephen Randall has been received through Mr. Stephen R. Weeden, a manuscript volume of 476 pages, comprising the substance of a series of expository sermons on the Acts of the Apostles and the Epistle to the Romans, delivered in the First Church in Boston, "upon ye Lordes dayes in ye afternoones," from 1643 to 1646, by Rev. John Cotton. The volume also contains a sketch of a sermon by Rev. John Wilson,† delivered "mo. 2. 20. 1645," and another by Rev. Mr.

*The volume bears a number of general titles, of which the following are specimens:

- I. "Mr. Cotton, his Exposition upon ye Actes of ye Apostells begininge at ye 20 chapter v 24, ye rest of ye Booke beinge gone ouer by him and written in other Bookes: at this x [exposition] he beganne in his Sermons upon ye Lordes Dayes in ye afternoones, mo. 12. 12. 1643."
- II. "By Mr. Cotton at Boston. N. E. his. exposition. one [on] ye 3 chapt: of ye Epistell of Pawle to ye Romans, in his Sermons. one [on] ye Lordes dayes in ye afternoones, begininge. on. ye mo. 12, s. 1645."

Twelve leaves have been mutilated, partly by carelessness, and partly from the corrosion of the ink. The residue of the volume is perfect, and can be, with little difficulty, read by those familiar with the penmanship of two centuries ago.

† Rev. John Wilson was born in Windsor, England, in 1588, and was educated at King's College, Cambridge. He came to New England with Gov. Winthrop, and

Cobbet, [probably of Ipswich, Mass.,] delivered "at Boston, N. E., mo. 5 13. 1645" The book is bound in leather, and was originally protected by brass clasps. A blank leaf bears the name of the owner, thus: "Robert Keayne of Bost: New England his Booke 1643. Price. 6.s." The color of the ink and the chirography, afford circumstantial evidence that these "expositions" were reported by him.* The contents of the volume present a fair specimen of the style of sermonizing two hundred and thirty-two years ago. They also give an insight into pulpit methods of that period, and the manner of treating in open assembly, delinquent church members.

A CASE.

A sermon preached "mo. 6. 4. 1645," from Romans 1: 24, had special reference to a scandal caused by the "wanton" conduct of a member of the church, who on this Sabbath was brought before the congregation to give him an opportunity to explain or confess, or to be proceeded against in the form then usual in such cases. At the close of the sermon, the drift of which may be inferred from the text, the culprit was "called to an account," for his mis-behavior, and the subject was discussed by the pastor, Elders Oliver and Leveret, and two other brethren of the church. But the accused while admitting that he had been "guiltie of some unseamely carriages," denied having been guilty of all that was laid to his charge; and failing to make a satisfactory acknowledgment, his case was adjudged "suffitient for ye church to proseed agaynst." The pastor, "after prayer," "proceeded to declare ye consent of ye church and ye cause of his [the offender] casting out." The sentence of excommunication was then delivered in the following words:

"Seinge ye Lord hath thus left you to yourselfe to such horrible wickedness, and we see little or no repentance in you, I doe therefore in ye

was ordained pastor over the church in Charlestown in 1629. In 1630 he became pastor of the first church in Boston. He died August 7, 1677, in the 79th year of his age. He was a devout and fervid preacher.

* Captain Robert Keayne was a wealthy merchant of Boston, and prominent in public affairs. He was for several years a Deputy in the General Court. He was brother-in-law to Rev. John Wilson, each having married a daughter of Sir John Mansfield. He was a member of Mr. Cotton's church, and is represented as "deeply religious," but not conciliatory in manners and sharp in trade. The latter two characteristics rendered him unpopular with the common people. He died March 26, 1665-6. He left a legacy to build a Town House, and £100 towards erecting an Almshouse.—*Drake's Hist., Boston.*

Name of Ch. [Christ] and by yt power weh ye church hath committed to me, I doe turne ye Keyes of ye church agaynst you, and deliver you up to ye power of Satan for ye destruction of your flesh. yt. your Spirit may be healed in ye day of Ch. [Christ.] and therefore we doe cast you out of ye fellowship of ye church, and from ye enjoyment of his ordinances, and from henceforward doe account you as a Heathen and a Publican." "Make way for him to goe out."

The guilty parties had previously been tried before the Magistrates on a capital charge, but for lack of eye-witness testimony they escaped the death penalty. They were, however, sentenced to stand upon the ladder at the place of execution with halters about their necks one hour, and then be whipped, or each of them to pay twenty pounds.*

Public ex-communication continued to be practised in some churches in Boston until about 1830.

A PROPOSITION.

A sermon preached "mo. 2. 27. 1645," from *Romans* 1: 7. "Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ," closes as follows:

"I am to make a motion to the church and to our Brethren. I understand by many o ye Towne yt come to me yt that thear is some difference of opinion amongst Neighbors, and it may be amongst Brethren too, though yt is not certayne, nor so playne; therefore, I propound this to you: whether you do not thinke it meete that in some publike meetinge we may handle such doctrynes as may tend to ye resolving of doubtles, and settlinge peace and truth amongst vs? For if you keepe truth, you will preserve your peace; and because we do not make this meetinge to be a snare to discouer mens judgments, and soe to bringe you into trouble, if any desjar to conceale thear judgments, therefore it shall be free for any Brethren or naighbors to propound thear doubtles or objections unto any thing yt shall be delivered, either then, or if they thinke good they may present their objections in wrighting, and we will not require yt they should put thear names to it; and these objections may be spoken to ye next meetinge-day, and yt may be the subject of ye discourse [at] yt meetinge; and this to continue once in a fortnight while any differences doe apear; for we have no daye in ye week free but ye 6th daye of ye weeke once in a fortnight, and on yt day thear is a priuat meetinge of Bretheren wherein for some time I have bine admitted to haue my st. [seat] to my owne edification and benefit. Now they are willinge that

*The curious reader will find a relation of this case, except the colloquy to the church, and the above-quoted sentence of excommunication, in Winthrop's History of New England, ii. 305, 306.

theare priuat may be conuerted to a more public exercise for ye time, for a more generall benefit for ye establishing of truth and peace, to teachers; and to prevent disturbance in weh meetinge we shall not so much attend to preachinge as to handlinge some groundes and principles of Religion, or such astend to resolve doubttes; and if any be not satisfied with what shall be deliuered, any of ye neighbors or brethren may object, and if ye Anisor doe not satisfie they may have libertie to replye agayne, and if that Anisor doe not fully clear ye doubttes they may make a third replye in wrightinge or otherwise, that we may labor to preserue vnitie and to preserue peace. Therefore if you doe aproue of it, consider of it till ye next Lord's day, and then give us your answer accordinge to weh we shall procede."

Following this proposition was "ye baptizinge of a child." At this service the pastor is reported as making the following address:

Pastor. "Beloued, we have herd what a blessinge of God peace is. Therefore look up to God for it; this very ordinance hath bine accompanned with singular peace when it hath bine rightly administered, as at ye Baptisinge of ye Eunuch, ye Baptisinge of Lydia & her House, of ye Taylor & his House, yea all his House & all in his House. Theare was great peace to ye parents, & soe to ye children Baptized in time; & ye neglect of this ordinance is far from peace; for Moses when he neglected to cireumcise his children God was about to kill him.

But what Benefitt is it to children to be baptized? What Benefitt had David by his cirenmisssion when he was cireumcised ye 8th day of his age? I say he had much benefit by it, & ye virtew of his cirenmisssion did much strengthen him. When he was to encounter with Goliath he comes agaynst him in ye confidence of his cirenmisssion, And Ch. [Christ] sayeth, 'Suffer little children to come to me;' therefore theare is a rebuke & blame belonginge to those yt kepe little children from cominge to Ch. Js. in this ordinance of Baptisme. Ch. Js. will blame & reprove them, & I know not what peace such ffathers & mothers cane have that keepe theare children from this ordinance; & though they may pretend peace & comfort in it, yet I fear it will prove but a rotten & counterfet peace in ye end."

Mr. Cotton was born in Derby, England, December 4th, 1585, was educated at Trinity and Emanuel Colleges, and commenced his ministry at Boston, in his native land. He came to Boston, New England, in 1633, and was ordained as colleague pastor with Rev Mr. Wilson, over the First Church. He died December 23, 1652, in the sixty-eighth year of his age. During the nineteen years of his ministry in Boston, his influence was widely felt in the ecclesiastical and civil affairs of the Massachusetts Colony. His controversy with Roger Williams was noticed in the Proceedings of last year. Of his profound learning Rev. Colton Mather

speaks in glowing terms. He was "a most *universal scholar*, and a *living system* of the liberal arts, and a *walking library*." He could "discourse" in Hebrew, was an accurate critic in the Greek, and wrote and spoke Latin "with a most Ciceronian elegance." In logic "he was completely furnished therewith to encounter the subtlest adversary of the Truth." But it was in "his *theologic*" and "his *textual divinity*" that "his greatest *extraordinariness*" appeared, while "his abilities to expound the Scriptures caused him to be admired by the ablest of his hearers."*

TWO EPOCHS.

The period covered by Philip's war, before referred to, belongs, properly, to the first epoch in the history of Rhode Island, while the second embraces the American Revolution. The part taken by our State in that exciting drama has found its appropriate record in our school and general histories. Yet the story has not all been told. While the hard experiences of Captain Dring and of Christopher Hawkins, of Howland, Angell, Thayer, Barton, Olney, Greene, Ward and Varnum, have become familiar to the public, the services, trials, and hair-breadth escapes of many during that eventful era, remain to be recited. The adventures of Captain Hoysteed, Hacker, of Captain Christopher Whipple, of William Waterman, of the doomed Gavot, and of other sons of Rhode Island, if preserved, would prove rich fragmentary contributions to our revolutionary history. To the list here named, may be added Thomas Weld Philbrook, of Providence, well remembered by many of our citizens.

Thomas Weld Philbrook, son of Jonathan and Dorethy Weld Philbrook, was born in Boston, Mass., May 9th, 1760. His father, born in Portsmouth, N. H., in 1721, was Captain of a trading vessel which sailed from the port of Boston to the West Indies and South America, and at the time of the birth of his son had sailed for Demarara. He afterwards settled in Maine.

At two years of age Thomas was sent to his grandfather, Rev. Habijah Weld,† of Attleboro, Mass., by whom he was educated as his son. He

* Magnalia, i. 273, 271.

† Rev. Habijah Weld, was born in Dunstable, Mass., July 2, 1702. He was graduated at Harvard University in the class of 1723; was ordained pastor over the First Congregational Church in Attleboro, October 1, 1727, and died of apoplexy, May 14, 1782, in the 80th year of his age, after a useful ministry of nearly fifty-five

prepared for and entered Harvard University about 1775, but fired by the spirit of the times, followed the example of his class and enlisted in the army. During the war he was in the Penobscot Expedition, having previously and subsequently engaged in privateering. He was taken prisoner and for eight months confined on board the Jersey Prison Ship. Here his sufferings were extreme. An attempt to escape proved unsuccessful and he was put in irons, the scars made by which he carried to his grave. He was finally released in a cartel for exchange, by taking, at the suggestion of his friendly guard, the name of a man on the list who had died. August 28, 1782, he married Abigail Mason, daughter of Noah and Lydia Lancaster Mason. She was born December 2, 1758.

After the war Mr. Philbrook engaged in business in Providence, but owing to the misconduct of his partner he failed. He honorably gave up all his property to his creditors, and ultimately paid his entire indebtedness, principal and interest.* He then went to Maine where land had been given him, covering the site of the present city of Bath. This he commenced clearing, but unfortunately for him the deed was re-called, and he was again afloat in the world. After teaching school a short time in that vicinity, he went to sea as supercargo, and spent a number of years in that employment, but with no permanent success. Disaster followed him. He was four times wrecked, and after the last calamity he returned to Providence in broken health, and was never after able to follow any settled business. In 1833 he made an unsuccessful effort to obtain a pension from the government for his revolutionary services,

years. He married Mary Fox, by whom he had fifteen children, four sons and eleven daughters.

On the Sabbath previous to his death Mr. Weld preached two sermons on the text: "He that believeth and is baptised, shall be saved; and he that believeth not shall be damned." So well were his secular concerns arranged for his departure that the settlement of his estate cost less than five dollars. He was dignified, polite, and hospitable. Dr. Dwight says he was "more eminently holy than any man whom I ever knew."

"In the pulpit and out of it, you all know he was zealous for God; a faithful and close reprover of sin, not fearing the faces of men. God hath been pleased to honor him much in his labors for the good of souls." *Rev. Peter Thatcher's Funeral Sermon.*

* In this he was nobly assisted by his wife, who opened a school in Providence which she continued forty-two years, and which at the age of seventy years she resigned.

being unable to support his memorial by the required testimony. Only one person was to be found (General Grosvenor, of Connecticut,) who could testify to his services. All his other companions in arms were gone.

The children born to Mr. Philbrook were Mary Kennedy, wife of Mr. George Hoppin, now living in Philadelphia; John, who died young; Harriet, who married the late Mr. Henry Cushing; and Anna Weld. Harriet and her sister Anna were popular teachers of a private school, and were distinguished for their musical talents. They were prominent members of the Psaltonian Society, as were Thomas Smith Webb, Oliver Shaw, Moses Noyes, William H. Smith, Charles Holden, Oliver Kendall, Samuel Eddy, Henry Cushing, and Silvanus and Samuel Tingley. Harriet Philbrook possessed a voice of remarkable compass and sweetness. It was for her that Oliver Shaw composed his popular sacred songs, "There's nothing true but heaven," and "Mary's Tears," both of which were rendered by her with unsurpassed effect. After her marriage with Mr. Cushing her sympathies and labors were enlisted in works of philanthropy, and at the time of her decease she was President of one of the most valued charitable institutions of Providence.

In the later years of his life Mr. Philbrook resided in the family of his son-in-law, Mr. Cushing, and died August 2d, 1841, aged 81 years, 2 months and 23 days. His widow died at the age of 92 years. He was a gentleman of urbane manners, and highly respected for his probity. The story of his adventures and sufferings from 1776 to 1781, including the expedition against Ticonderoga and his sojourn in the famous Jersey Prison Ship, is here given from a manuscript written by himself, which recently came into my possession :

MR. PHILBROOK'S NARRATIVE.

"In May, 1776, I arrived at that age which the law required to enter the army. I very soon availed myself of the highly esteemed privilege, and before the expiration of the month, I became a soldier in Captain Elderkin's company, Colonel Mott's regiment, of Connecticut State troops, destined to join the army at Ticonderoga. We soon commenced our march which was a very pleasant one considering the badness of the roads and the uninhabited country we had to pass through. Our first encampment was at Skeensborough, (now White Hall.) We remained here several weeks, how many I cannot recollect, sufficient time however, for the most of us to be taken down with the fever and ague, myself among others. We next went to Ticonderoga, and were landed at

Mount Independence on an eminence separated from the main Fort by a very narrow strait in the Lake. Here we cleared a place for our Camp, and for sometime were employed in building our huts (for we had no tents.) Spruce poles and hemlock bark were fortunately very plenty in this part of our country at that time.

Though fever and ague still followed me yet I was able to do duty most of the time. Our Orderly Sergeant being sick, I was ordered to do his duty because I could write a little better than the rest of the boys. This duty I performed to the end of the campaign as well as I could, and found but little difficulty as some of the younger officers of the regiment were very friendly to me. At the expiration of our term we were carried in flat bottomed boats to Fort George, where we were discharged and left to get home as we could. With great difficulty (being very weak) I arrived in Pomfret, which was then my place of residence.

After getting recruited I visited my friends in Attleborough. This summer we had but very little fighting, none in this department except an affair with General Waterbury, who went to Crown Point with a number of row galleys, gunboats, and to take care of some English vessels of the same description; but it seems they rather chose to take care of themselves. After having some sharp-shooting, in which our people came off second best, they were glad to return and take shelter under the guns of our Fort.

Though I was rather tired of being a soldier my disposition for roving had not abated. In the spring of 1777 I went to Boston and engaged as Captain's Clerk on board the Brig General Stark in the privateering business. We had a pleasant cruise, but not a profitable one. We exchanged some shots with a very large English Letter of Marque of twenty guns, and as we had but ten, and those very small, we certainly had no business with her. Though we pelted away at her with our pop guns for more than an hour, she took but little notice of us, once in a while complimenting us with one or two of her heavy guns. With one of her shots she killed one man and wounded two others, which put an end to this foolish affair. In the fall of 1778 I entered on board the ship Rebecca, a merchantman, bound to Holland. Though a dull sailing ship, we were fortunate enough to escape the British cruisers. Homeward bound we had a very long passage, being ninety-three days. Our provisions fell short, and the last thirty days we were on an allowance of two ounces of meat and two of bread for twenty-four hours. This was indeed a short allowance and when we arrived in Boston we were reduced almost to skeletons.

In the spring of 1779 I engaged with Captain Hacker, to go as Acting-Lieutenant of Marines, on a cruise in the continental sloop Providence, but before we could get ready for sea the Penobscot Expedition was fitting out and we were ordered to join that fleet. All the movements were slow and tardy, and it was near the last of June before the fleet could be got together. The armed force consisted of the Warren Frigate

thirty-six guns, and Providence sloop, fourteen guns. These were the only continental vessels. The rest were all private property belonging to Boston and Salem, and hired by the State of Massachusetts. They consisted of nine ships of from twenty-two to eighteen guns, six brigs of sixteen and eighteen guns, and forty coasting sloops of about one hundred tons each, employed as transports. The fleet was commanded by Commodore Saltonstall, of New London, and the land forces by General Lovell, of Hingham.

We sailed from Boston (I think the last of June). The next day we anchored in Portland harbor to receive on board a part of the troops. We tarried here several days and then sailed for Broad Bay, where we were to receive the remainder of the militia. Here we wasted several more days, seemingly for no other purpose but to give the enemy sufficient time to prepare for us. We however got to Penobscot at last, having been twelve or fourteen days in making the passage, which we certainly might have done in four or five. We sailed up the bay until abreast of the British garrison, where we anchored, taking special care to keep out of the reach of their guns.

The Fort was situated on a point of land formed by the junction of the Bagaduce and Penobscot rivers, on a gently elevated piece of land which appeared to have been cleared and cultivated for a number of years. The Breastwork or Fort was rather a rough looking concern, built with logs and dirt and not more than three or three and a half feet high, which our long-legged militia men would have straddled over without much difficulty.

We expected that the troops would have been landed the next morning after our arrival, but the morning came and the day passed without any movement. Some hard speeches were handed round at the expense of the General. The next day passed as the former but not without much grumbling. The British had two ships of twenty-eight and twenty-four guns laying in the mouth of Bagaduce river. This was all the naval force they had.

Our Captain and the Captain of one of the armed brigs, thought to have a little diversion and drive them from their moorings. This they got liberty to do. At sunset I landed with thirty marines from the Providence with as many more from the brig, all under the command of Captain R. Davis, of the Continental army. We landed on a small island of two or three acres, lying in the mouth of the Bagaduce, about a mile below the ships. The island was thickly covered with wood and under brush. We soon found our way to the summit, which was not very much elevated, and commenced erecting a Breastwork.

We were very industrious through the night, making as little noise as possible that we might not be heard on board the ships. Before the break of day we had our works completed, and received from one of the ordnance transports three long 18-pounders, which we soon had mounted. As it began to grow light we trimmed up a small spruce tree on which

we hoisted our flag and saluted our neighbors with the well-loaded guns. This I believe was the first they knew of our being so near them, as they appeared to be perfectly still and quiet, and by the time it took them to get ready to return our morning call, a brisk fire was kept up from us and from the ships. We could frequently see our shot hull them so that we must have done them considerable damage. They generally overshot us, but unfortunately one of their shot struck the top of our Breast-work and killed two men and wounded three others.

After about three hours of firing the ships slipped their cables and moved up the river out of the reach of our shot. We next went to work cleared a piece of ground and built us some comfortable huts to lodge in until further orders. Our little settlement we called Hacker's Island. We had now been here five or six days and the troops were not landed. A general uneasiness pervaded all ranks, both among the sailors and soldiers. Something must be wrong. Our General was said to be a very good sort of man, but these good sort of men very seldom make good Generals. I recollect that I thought then, and I still think, that Mr. Lovell would have done more good, and made a much more respectable appearance, in the Deacon's seat of a country church than at the head of an American army. It was, however, at last agreed upon to land the troops. I think it was the morning of the seventh day after our arrival. The place selected for landing was very injudiciously chosen, being a high bank covered with small trees and shrubs with an ascent of at least forty-five degrees, whereas about half a mile distant was a fine level cleared spot sufficiently large to hold the whole army, where we might have landed under the cover of the guns of one or two of our ships without the loss of a man. This appeared very strange to us all at the time, but I believe that all were of the opinion afterwards that the old general had agreed to go snacks with the Commodore in whatever they were to have for defeating the expedition. We were, however, landed at the place appointed. The marines were first set on shore on the beach. Some musket shot were fired at us from the brow of the hill, but we were at too great a distance from them to receive any damage.

When the marines were all landed and about half the militia, we began our ascent which was indeed a very difficult one. Had it not been for the shrubs growing on the side of the hill we might have lost half our men before we gained the height. Though I was not encumbered with a musket I found it difficult to keep my footing. When we had ascended about one-third of the distance the British from the brow began a brisk fire upon us which they kept up 'til we were within a few rods of the top. They then courageously fled and left the ground to us. In this ascent we had forty men killed and twenty wounded. Among the killed was Captain Welch of the marines, on board the Warren Frigate, a very amiable young gentleman and a brave officer. Our brave General did not lead the van in their ascent, neither did he bring up the rear.

Probably he and the commodore were walking the Warren's quarter-deck with their spy-glasses to see the fun. I saw him two hours after on the hill giving orders about building huts, for which he probably was well calculated.

With the Marines belonging to the Providence and brig Tryall we returned to our little isle where we found good cheer and comfortable quarters. In three or four days the Militia were comfortably housed as if we had come to spend the summer with our English neighbors whom everybody knew, that knew anything, that an express had been sent to Halifax and that they would be prompt in sending a reinforcement which might be expected in a very short time. Councils of war were held every day on board the Commodore's ship. The result commonly was, the Commodore and General could not agree. Probably they had agreed in one point and engaged not to agree in any other. Thus day after day passed away without anything being done. Some of the Captains of the fleet frequently landed on the Bagaduce shore, either to amuse themselves by rambling in the woods, or to reconnoitre the enemy. In one of these excursions, the Commodore being with them, they spent the most of the afternoon. Towards evening they were discovered from one of the English ships, and immediately a boat with a company of soldiers was sent on shore. On seeing the boat put off from the ship they each made the best of their way for their boat, which they had left waiting for them. They all reached the boat nearly at the same time, but the Commodore was missing. They waited, but he came not; it began to grow dark; the British boat had returned to the ship, and finally at 9 o'clock they concluded to leave him to his fate and take care of themselves. The next morning at sunrise he was seen on the beach and a boat immediately sent to take him off. He said he was closely pursued and in making his escape he had got so far into the woods that he could not find the way out in the dark; but it was generally believed that he found a very good birth on board one of the British ships.

Tumults now ran high. The General was hissed and hooted at wherever he made his appearance, and the Commodore cursed and execrated by all hands. Captain Hacker offered with the Providence and the six brigs that if the General would attack the Fort all the men from the ships would gladly join him. He (Captain Hacker) would enter the river with these small vessels and engage to bring out the English ships. But no, it was not feasible.

According to the best accounts we could get the British had only five hundred effective men in their garrison. Their naval force we knew was only two small ships. We had between three and four thousand Militia, with sixteen ships and brigs well armed and manned. It is strange that these spirited fellows were kept peaceable so long. The sailors indeed talked hard of leaving their ships, and under a commander of their own choice, pushing forward and storming the Fort. A single word of encouragement from any of the Captains in the fleet would have

set them in rapid motion, and I have no doubt but they would have succeeded. But we had dallied away our time too long.

More than thirty days had been spent in idleness since our first anchoring, and not a single movement made to annoy the enemy. On a fine summer's morning five lofty ships were discovered in the offing. All knew who they were, for all had expected them for some time. It was now all hiltor-skiltor. The men from the shore were ordered to embark as soon as possible, and the fleet to weigh anchor or slip their cables, and proceed up the river. We were soon under sail with a fair wind. The English ships were not more than three miles from us, but the wind so favored us that we kept clear from their shot. As we came towards the head of navigation the Warren Frigate grounded, and was immediately cleared of her men and blown up. The other ships soon followed her example and as fast as they could land their men and some stores, set fire to their vessels and left them.

Our retreat was as badly managed as the whole expedition had been. Here we were, landed in a wilderness, under no command, those belonging to the ships unacquainted with the woods, and only knew that a west course would carry us across to Kennebeck, whereas there were hundreds of the Militia that were old hunters and knew the country. Some of these ought to have been detained as pilots and we might all have got through in three days; but we had no one to direct, so every one shifted for himself. Some got to their homes in two days, while the most of us were six and seven days before we came to an inhabited country. I got through on the seventh day, after keeping a fast of three days.* From Portland I took passage in the Frigate Boston, Captain Tucker, and was treated with much politeness by him and his officers.

My stay in Boston was short. My next adventure was in the ship America, a fine Letter of Marque of twenty guns, bound from Boston to Virginia, and thence to France; but when we were off the Capes of Virginia we fell in with two of John Bull's canoes, who took us under their protection, and altered our course for New York. Here I was a prisoner

*One company came out on Mr. Jonathan Philbrook's farm. Mrs. Philbrook fed the starving men, and on hearing that others were coming, cast about in her mind as to what she could prepare in the largest quantities. The *big pot* was brought out, and some pork and beans were bubbling over the fire. Some one called her by name, when one of the men sitting by said "Philbrook? why, there is a young man in the company back of us of that name." She said, "is his name Tommy?" The reply was "Yes." The mother's heart was at once alive, and her thought was he is starving and must be delicately fed. A chicken must be killed. The thought no sooner came than another followed. These were all somebody's sons, and not only one, but many of the feathered race were sacrificed, and the starving men made welcome. Soon the second detachment came, and sure enough "Tommy" emerged from the woods on to his father's farm.

eight months. As the history of the Old Jersey and the Good Hope Prison Ships is pretty well known, I shall only say that during my stay on board, I suffered everything but death, and thousands of my fellow prisoners suffered that. In the spring of 1780 I engaged in a six months campaign on Rhode Island in Colonel Mitchell's regiment, of Massachusetts State troops. In this tour of duty there was scarcely anything occurred worthy of notice. We had no enemy nearer to us than New York. The men were well fed, and employed in working very moderately on the fortifications at Butt's Hill. I next went to Salem and engaged on board the brig *Montgomery*, Captain Carnes, a privateer of sixteen guns. In this cruise we captured several small prizes, and had an engagement with a large English ship, in which we lost our First Lieutenant and three men killed and several wounded, and our brig much damaged in sail and rigging. I went a second and a third cruise in the same brig under the command of Captain Hobbs. On our third cruise being only twenty-four hours at sea, we fell in with the noted King's brig, the *Wild Cat*. Mowat, commander. She was well known to Captain Hobbs and many of our men. Having been taken by her but a short time previous, we knew her to be of superior force, but did not hesitate to engage her. We did not make children's play of it. We stood for each other until we were almost yard arm and yard arm before a gun was fired by either. We then commenced with a good will, and for about forty minutes we lay within pistol shot of each other hammering away with all our might. In this time we were so much cut to pieces that it was difficult to keep the vessel under command. Our opponent was the first to show that he was tired of the business. He up helm and made sail from us, and we were too much disabled to follow if we had wished to renew the combat. Our worthy commander was the first who fell in this short but sanguinary engagement. Eight brave fellows shared his fate and about the same number were wounded. A few days after, we fell in with a British frigate, were made prisoners and taken to St. Johns, Newfoundland. At the end of four months we were released and sent in a cartell to Salem, in October, 1781. I now hung up my fiddle and went no more a cruising during the war.

I find I have been sixteen months in the State and continental service, twelve months a prisoner, and about two years and a half in the privateering and merchant service.

IMPROVEMENTS.—OUR TREASURES.

The removal of the stairs to their present position, and other improvements made by the Committee on the building and grounds, is a pleasant feature of the year, and has greatly facilitated the work of the librarian.

The show case provided enables us to exhibit a portion, (and but a small portion) of our rare treasures, the examination of which has much interested visitors. Another case, of a similar kind, would put it in our power to increase the interest, and help us to secure other desirable contributions to our Cabinet, by displaying to admiring eyes many of our smaller (and rare) relics and articles of *vertu*. Many persons by seeing what we have would be led to contribute from their own treasures desirable articles such as we have not. The rapid increase of books and pamphlets will soon render the supply of additional shelf room necessary. An additional alcove could be used at this moment with great advantage.

Of our printed treasures we name the newspaper department as embracing some of the most valuable. The collection numbers upwards of four hundred bound volumes, and not far from one hundred volumes unbound. Over three hundred of the bound volumes are Rhode Island publications. The value of one series of these (*The Providence Gazette*) cannot be determined by any money standard, simply because no amount of money could duplicate them were they to be destroyed. These and other files of the collection are being constantly resorted to from every part of the State, and from other States, for historical, genealogical and legal purposes. So that I may repeat, in substance, what was said on another occasion, viz.: the Society is continually giving back to the public of that which it has freely received.

AN APPEAL.

In several preceding reports I have spoken of the fragmentary materials, useful for general or local history, in the shape of old books, newspapers and manuscripts stowed away in the closets or in the attics of many dwellings in different parts of the State, which are of little or no value to their owners, but which, if possessed by this Society, might be helps to establish some disputed historical fact, or to supply a missing link in a genealogical chain. The importance of instituting measures to secure such materials for future use, has been urged on the ground that, year by year, they have been diminishing, either through neglect, the ravages of vermin, or through the agency of the all-devouring pulp vat. To this end the labors of the Librarian have, to some extent, been directed. But "many hands make light work," and I would again urge

the members of the Society to assist in rescuing these unappreciated memorials of the past from the destruction which, in a majority of instances, awaits them, and thus enrich our collections with what may hereafter prove to be of great worth to the historian, the genealogist, and the archaeologist. A little effort in this direction on the part of each, would, without doubt, secure to us numerous additions. I would also earnestly solicit from all persons throughout the State, who may read this paragraph, to aid the objects of our Society by donations to its collections of ancient books, newspapers, almanacs, (interleaved or otherwise,) pamphlets of every description, old account books, diaries, letters, (especially of the revolutionary period and earlier,) records of extinct associations, wills, deeds, contracts, apprentice indentures, receipts, transcripts from family bibles of births, marriages and deaths, genealogies, town and county maps, plats, engravings, portraits, Indian implements, and other relics; in a word, anything and all things which may serve to illustrate historic events, or throw light upon the manners and customs of early times.

Besides upwards of seven thousand manuscripts which should be mounted, bound and indexed, before they can with safety be laid open to the public, or even be satisfactorily inspected by our members, our library contains about thirty-five thousand pamphlets relating to education, science, art, agriculture, horticulture, discoveries, internal improvements, theology, history, biography, finance, law, politics, general literature, and various other subjects. These, when bound, will make about three thousand volumes. Until prepared for binding, they cannot be properly indexed nor catalogued. That they should be bound, to save them from the risk of surreptitious removal, or being otherwise lost, is self-evident; and pecuniary means to ensure both to manuscripts and pamphlets this sort of security, is an obvious necessity. But, as the whole subject is now in the hands of a committee competent to devise and recommend judicious measures for securing this desirable result, I forbear further remarks.

There are several topics bearing upon the continued prosperity of the Society, of which I had purposed to speak, but time and space admonish me to forbear, and I will only add that since the last annual meeting, fifteen meetings of the Society have been held. At eleven of these, care-

fully prepared papers have been read. In addition to these were two meetings of a conversational character, by no means the least interesting of the number. Such a record argues well for the future.

The necrology for the year embraces the names of John Carter Brown, Stephen Randall, Henry W. Lothrop, Rev. David Benedict, D. D., and John Kingsbury. Notices of these gentlemen will be found in the appendix to this report.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWIN M. STONE,

Librarian Northern Department.

JANUARY 20, 1875.



NECROLOGY

OF THE

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

For 1874.

JOHN CARTER BROWN descended from Rev. Chad Brown, who came over from England in the ship *Martin*, in July, 1638, and became the "first elder" of the First Baptist Church in Providence. He was the second son of Nicholas and Ann Brown, and was born in Providence, August 28th, 1797. He died in the city of his birth, June 10th, 1874. He was educated at Brown University, and graduated in the class of 1816.

A few years after his graduation, Mr. Brown spent three years in European travel, and on his return entered the counting room of Brown & Ives, and was at the head of that eminent mercantile house at the time of his death. He early manifested a taste for historical studies, and in the course of his life collected the largest and most complete library of books relating exclusively to America, to be found in this country. Of this library, amounting to not less than 10,000 volumes, a catalogue in four imperial volumes was printed a few years ago. It is gratifying to know that this invaluable collection is to be preserved unbroken in the family, and will continue to be extended.

Mr. Brown became in 1828 a Trustee, and in 1842, a Fellow, of Brown University, of which he was a liberal benefactor. He was a member of the Board of the Butler Hospital for the Insane, and gave liberally to

that institution, as he did also to the Rhode Island Hospital. Donations were also made by him to the Providence Athenæum and to the Redwood Library at Newport. Though not a politician, he served one year in the General Assembly, as a representative from the city of Newport. In the anti-slavery contest in Kansas he took an active part, and supported the movement with his influence and money. He caused to be re-printed for free circulation, shortly before the late rebellion, an almost forgotten pamphlet written in 1796, by Judge St. George Tucker, Professor of Law in the University of William and Mary, Virginia, in favor of gradual emancipation.

The essential traits in the character of Mr. Brown are such as are well illustrated in the serene and unobtrusive life which he always led. His manners, though formal and reserved to strangers, were at all times those of a courteous and high bred gentleman of the elder generation. His tastes were unusually simple and his spirit was that of genuine modesty, without self-seeking or any element of arrogance. He had firm convictions, but he was always tolerant of dissent on the part of others. He was through life unusually fond of society, and in the ancestral mansion where his father had lived before him, his social entertainments were distinguished for a generous and elegant hospitality, such as few have it in their power to equal. But, in his daily life, he was especially averse to anything like ostentation or display, and, though always accustomed to the use of large wealth, he cared nothing for any kind of luxurious indulgence.

Mr. Brown married Sophia Augusta, daughter of the late Hon. Patrick Browne, of Nassau, Bahama Islands. Three children, two sons and a daughter, survive him.

Mr. Brown became a member of this Society July 19th, 1825, and was a Trustee under the old organization, from 1834 to 1845. He at several times made contributions to its collections.

STEPHEN RANDALL, son of Doctor Stephen and Lucina (Winsor) Randall, was born in Providence, October 22, 1793. He received his school education in "Whipple Hall,"—as the building which then occupied the present site of the Benefit Street Grammar School, was formerly called. In 1818 he became connected with Mr. Henry Stone, under the firm of Randall & Stone, and commenced the manufacture of candle wick in a small factory which had been erected by his father, and which

is still standing on Branch Avenue, in the tenth ward of this city. He continued in the same business until October 1, 1871, when he surrendered it to a nephew, who had been a partner with him since 1846.

Mr. Randall was married in September, 1831, to Miss Susan (Hopkins) Arnold, who died in February, 1870. Early in life he entered heartily into politics, and for many years the affairs of the town of North Providence, where he resided, were largely directed by Edward S. Wilkinson and Stephen Randall. Amongst his old papers one was recently found bearing the address of "Governor of North Providence." It is safe to say, however, that the affairs of the town were never more economically or wisely managed, than while those two gentlemen had control of them. He was for many years a member of the General Assembly, and although never a speech-maker, he was generally found on important committees, and was regarded as a man of sound judgment in matters of public concern.

After the revolution in politics which succeeded the extension of suffrage, in 1842, Mr. Randall (as well as many other old political leaders) was permitted to go into "retiracy;" and he soon ceased to feel much interest in public affairs,—although he always kept himself acquainted with the course of events in the State and nation.

During the latter years of his life, Mr. Randall became somewhat noted for his zeal in behalf of the claims of Roger Williams to the respect and gratitude of the people of Rhode Island. His efforts to procure the erection of a monument to his memory are well known. Some years before his death, he deposited in a Providence Bank \$1,000, as the foundation of a fund to accumulate for that purpose. He had previously (March 22, 1860) caused the dust of Roger Williams and his wife to be exhumed from their graves in the orchard of the late Sullivan Dorr, and deposited in his tomb, to be placed beneath the monument when erected.

It was mainly through Mr. Randall's influence that the State is represented in the National Capitol by a statue which serves to perpetuate the memory of its founder. Through his exertions, and at his expense, some of the writings of that distinguished man have been rescued from oblivion, and given to the world in a permanent form; and his persistent agitation of the subject has had the effect to awaken an interest in historical studies in many who had scarcely given attention to them before.

Mr. Randall died on the 30th of July, 1874, after an illness of three weeks. He was elected a member of this Society, July 14, 1844.

HENRY WOOD LOTHROP was descended in the sixth generation from Mark Lothrop, who first appears in America in 1636, in Salem, Mass. In 1643, he removed to Duxbury, and in 1656 to Bridgewater, where he lived until his death in 1676. Mark Lothrop was probably a near kinsman of Rev. John Lowthorpe, who was baptised in Etton, Yorkshire, December 20, 1584, and who belonged to an old family which took its name from Lowthorpe in the West Riding of York. The name Mark occurs several times in the family to which John belonged, a younger brother of his bearing the name. His appearance in Massachusetts so soon after the immigration of John, and his settlement in the same vicinity, strengthen the supposition. As early as 1682 we find this Mark with his two sons, proprietors in Bridgewater.

Henry W., the subject of this notice, the sole remaining representative of eleven children, was born in Providence, R. I., January 5th, 1802. His father, Zebadiah Lothrop, was a native of Bridgewater, Mass., and his mother, Sarah (Adams) Lothrop, was a daughter of J. Adams, of Northbridge, Mass. They were married October 1st, 1795.

Mr. Lothrop received his education in the public schools in Providence, and at an Academy in Wrentham, Mass., and at an early age became a clerk to his father and grandfather, then doing business in the West India trade under the firm of Adams & Lothrop. His father died when he was but sixteen years of age, which event threw great responsibility upon him. On the dissolution of the firm of Adams & Lothrop, Thornton & Lothrop succeeded to their business, adding to it the Western produce trade. Stafford & Lothrop succeeded this firm, but engaged chiefly in cotton and manufacturers supplies. They were also agents for Oliver Ames & Son, and Lazell, Perkins & Co., of Bridgewater, Mass. This firm ceased to be in active business about the year 1865, but was not dissolved until the death of Mr. Lothrop. From 1865 to his death Mr. Lothrop was senior partner in the firm of Henry W. Lothrop & Son, engaged in the cotton trade in the city of Providence.

Although Mr. Lothrop refused to enter into political life, he was honored with many important trusts. He was chosen a director of the Pawtuxet Bank; of the Franklin Mutual Fire Insurance Company; of the American, afterwards the Newport Insurance Company; and of the Providence National Bank, offices which he held until his decease. He was also for many years a director in the People's Savings Bank, treasurer of the First Congregational Benevolent Society, treasurer and vice president of the Rhode Island Society for the Promotion of Domestic Industry,

vice-president of the Providence Aid Society, during the nine and a half years of its existence, treasurer of the State Bounty Fund established for soldiers' families, and a member of the Board of State Charities and Corrections, his trustworthiness and sound judgment peculiarly qualifying him for these offices.

Mr. Lothrop was married August 9th, 1827, to Louisa Thornton, of Providence, who, with only one of their four children, survives him. He was for many years an exemplary member of the First Congregational Church, and died October 9th, 1874, after a protracted and painful sickness, borne with Christian fortitude, in the assured faith of a happy immortality. He became a member of the Historical Society April 10th, 1856, and held an official position from 1858 to 1874.

DAVID BENEDICT, S. T. D., eldest son of Thomas and Martha (Scudler) Benedict, was born in Norwalk, Conn., October 10th, 1779, and at the age of fourteen years was apprenticed to a shoemaker in New Canaan, Conn. At the expiration of his apprenticeship he went to New York and worked one year as a journeyman. In December, 1799, he united with the Baptist Church in Stratford, and his mind was turned to the ministry. After suitable preparation at Mount Pleasant Academy, now the seat of Sing Sing Prison, New York, he entered Brown University in 1804, and was graduated in 1806, with an oration on "Ecclesiastical History," which attracted much attention. Immediately after his graduation he was settled over a Baptist Church in Pawtucket, of which he was pastor twenty-five years, and resigned in 1828. He never sought any other settlement. May 4th, 1803, he married Margaret Hubbel Gano, daughter of Rev. Stephen Gano, D. D., of Providence, by whom he had twelve children. His taste for ecclesiastical history was early developed, and during more than half a century he diligently pursued its study, particularly in reference to his denomination. In collecting materials for the works he afterwards published, he traveled extensively through all the States and Territories of the Union. Of his numerous publications, his History of the Baptists takes a leading rank. The last of his printed works, published in 1860, entitled "Fifty Years among the Baptists," is replete with interesting personal reminiscences. For ten years he held the office of Postmaster in Pawtucket.

In 1818 Mr. Benedict was elected a Trustee of Brown University, and for more than fifty years was absent but once from any meeting of the Board. In 1851, Shurtleff College, Illinois, conferred upon him the hon-

orary degree of S. T. D. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and attained to the degree of a Royal Arch Mason. He wrote copiously for various periodicals and papers, and after the close of his regular ministry he performed a large amount of missionary labor. Indeed, few men equalled him in the industrious employment of time. The last twelve years of his life were engaged in compiling a "Compendium of Church History," and he left in manuscript, ready for the press, a history of the Donatists. The ministry of Dr. Benedict was marked by seasons of special religious interest. He was remarkable for his energy, zeal and cheerfulness. He died peacefully, December 5th, 1874, in the midst of scenes with which he had been familiar for nearly three-quarters of a century, in the ninety-sixth year of his age. Four sons and a daughter survive him.

Dr. Benedict was elected a member of this Society July 19, 1825, and was a trustee from 1827 to 1840. Though long withdrawn from active participation in its transactions he, by occasional contributions to its collections, manifested his continued interest in its objects.

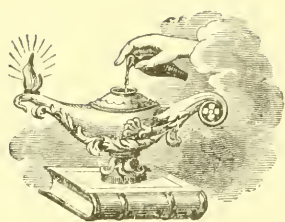
JOHN KINGSBURY, son of John and Dorothy (Leavens) Kingsbury, was born in South Coventry, Conn., May 26th, 1801, and died in Providence, R. I., December 31st, 1874, after a confinement by paralysis of about six months, aged 73 years and nearly 7 months. He came to this city as a student and entered Brown University in 1822, and was graduated in 1823. A few weeks before that event he formed an engagement with Mr. G. A. DeWitt, to assist in the instruction and management of a private educational institution known as the "Providence High School." Subsequently the school passed into his entire control, and took the name of "Young Ladies' High School." Under his management it attained an unusual popularity and success. In 1858, when Mr. Kingsbury retired from a position he had held for thirty years, five hundred and fifty-seven young ladies had been his pupils. The occasion was commemorated by a pleasant re-union. He was one of the founders of the Rhode Island Institute of Instruction, and its first President. He held the office of State Commissioner of Public Schools a little more than one year, and in 1859 was elected President of the Washington Insurance Company, the duties of which office he discharged until disabled by disease. For several years he was President of the Franklin Society, and also of the Young Men's Bible Society. In 1844 he was chosen a Trustee of Brown University, and in 1853 was placed on the Board of Fellows, and chosen

Secretary of the Corporation. From the University he received, in 1856, the honorary degree of LL. D. The same year he was made a director of the Butler Hospital for the Insane. He was the first President of the Young Men's Christian Association, and took an active interest in the Providence Dispensary, and other benevolent institutions.

On coming to Providence he united with the Pacific (Richmond Street) Congregational Church, and in 1853 was associated with others in establishing the Central Congregational Church, of which he was a deacon at the time of his death. Mr. Kingsbury was highly respected by the entire community for his personal qualities. Christian purity and integrity marked his whole career. In 1834 he married Mary Mackie, youngest daughter of the late Hon. Thomas Burgess, Judge of the Municipal Court. Mrs. Kingsbury died in 1872. Of nine children by this union, three only survive.

Mr. Kingsbury became a member of this Society July 19, 1836.





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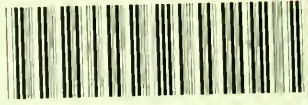
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